

5280



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Home

AUTUMN 2015

A SUPPLEMENT TO
5280 MAGAZINE

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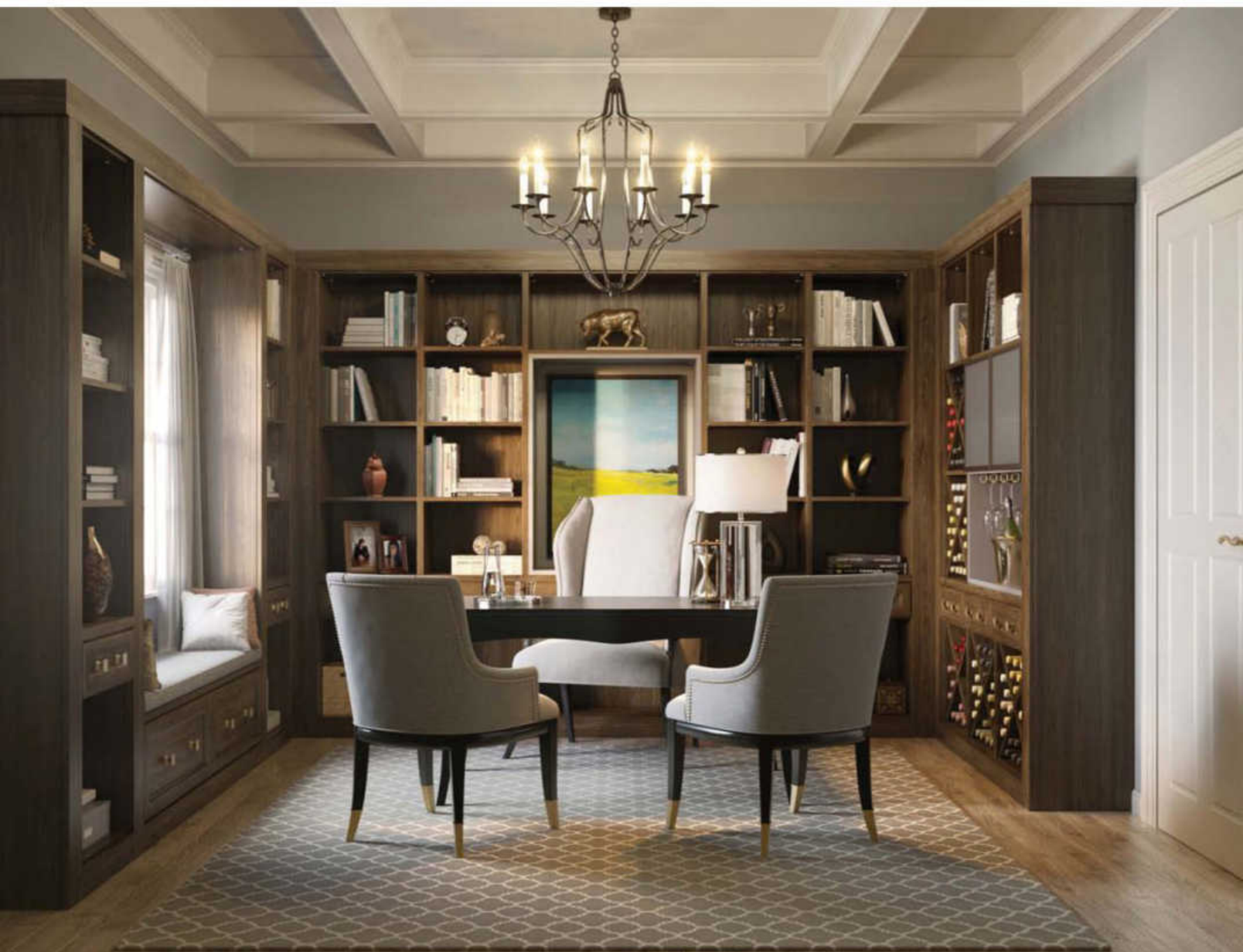
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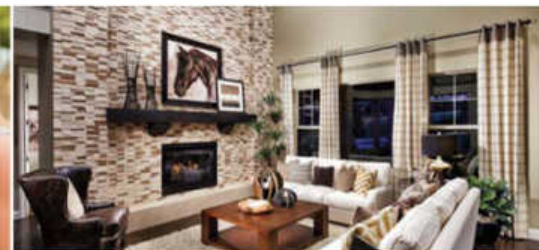
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LET'S REDEFINE THE PICNIC.

Let's lose the blanket and set the table. Let's trade the lemonade for a nice Syrah. And let's not wait until the weekend to make it happen. The European Hillside Collection offers six nationally award-winning home plans, all tailored to the Colorado lifestyle. Explore two models at Pradera in Parker, and four more at Heritage Hills in Lone Tree.

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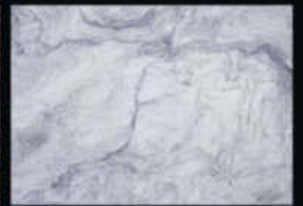


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Bradley Nesbitt

STYLIST

Bradley Nesbitt is a Nashville-based freelance editor, stylist, and social media manager who turned her discerning eye to Etsy to find Denver's best handmade decor—including the printable pictured above—for this issue's **"The Best Of Etsy"** (page 22). "After relocating from Denver to Nashville, I love that I can get the best of Mile High design in just a click with these amazing local Etsy artisans," she says. She also got a dose of Denver's thriving furniture-making scene as she collected local pieces for **"Home Made"** (page 42). Nesbitt has contributed to *Southern Living*, *HGTV Magazine*, *Country Living*, *Coastal Living*, and *Luxe*.



Jon Rose

PHOTOGRAPHER

Born in Texas and raised on the iconography of the American West, award-winning portrait photographer Jon Rose looks for stories in the interactions between subjects and their environments. Whether they're set in workshops or on the open range, his portraits explore the ways places give texture and context to personalities. So he was an ideal candidate to photograph innovator Lon McGowan in his forward-looking Boulder shop, Alpine Modern (**"Modern Man,"** page 26). Rose is a regular contributor to *5280*.



Spencer Campbell

WRITER

Although Spencer Campbell has worked in Denver's LoDo neighborhood for nearly a year, he had never entered any of its many art galleries until he was asked to write about them (**"LoDo Art Walk,"** page 62). "I was blown away," says Campbell, a 5280 staffer. "This one little neighborhood has blossomed into a real player in the art scene—not just regionally, but internationally." That's the same ambition driving Lon McGowan, owner of Boulder's Alpine Modern design boutique, whom Campbell also profiled this month (**"Modern Man,"** page 26). "Lon has such a vivid, concrete vision for what his brand can be," Campbell says. "I have no doubt he will pull it off."



Kimberly Gavin

PHOTOGRAPHER

Inspired by her artist grandfather, Kimberly Gavin found her way into the arts via photography. Specializing in architecture and interiors, Gavin enjoys what she calls the "constant diversity" of her subject matter. For this issue, she photographed the home of restaurateur Leigh Sullivan (**"On The Edge,"** page 84). "It's so intriguing to open a front door to a home without any idea of what lies ahead and be wowed," she says. "The designers of this particular home seamlessly blended the old architecture of a early-20th-century bungalow with modern design and fresh art." Gavin is a regular contributor to *5280 Home*.



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From The Editor

MADE FOR HOME

ONE DAY EARLY IN OUR MARRIAGE, I mentioned to my husband that I wanted a tiny table to put beside the old club chair my parents had passed down to us. The chair has no particular pedigree, as furniture heritage goes, but it was in my childhood home for my entire life, and I loved it for the practical and sentimental comfort it gave me.

A few months later, on Christmas morning, my husband set before me a small table, just large enough to hold a cup of coffee and a hardcover book. Sleek and simple with a warm brown finish, the table was exactly what I had wanted. Delighted, I asked him where he'd found it, as I had experienced no luck tracking down the perfect piece. He grinned and said, "I made it."

So began my love affair with custom furniture. Since then, we've had a few pieces made by local craftsmen, including a pair of bedside tables and a dining room sideboard. The feel-good factor is high: We support local furniture-makers, enjoy the satisfaction of having a small part to play in the design process, and get pieces that are perfect for our home now—and, I hope, our kids' and grandkids' homes in the future.

Which is why I'm so excited to share with you our first-ever furniture guide (page 37). You'll find the inspiring story of a Front Range furniture-maker; advice on where to locate some of the most beautiful furnishings made in Colorado, and tips on where to turn for your own one-of-a-kind piece. (I'm swooning over the rocking chair on page 42.)

If your home is already fully furnished, this issue also has plenty of other beautiful things to ogle: a collection of gorgeous home accessories made here and sold on Etsy ("The Best Of Etsy," page 22); the story of Boulder shop owner Lon McGowan and his mission to bring contemporary style to high-country living ("Modern Man," page 26); and a designer's tricks for revamping a cramped kitchen without adding square footage ("Breathing Room," page 28).

I hope this issue helps you discover just the thing—whether it's a smart design idea or a tiny, charming table—to make your home feel perfect for you.



Hilary
Hilary Masell Oswald
Editor, 5280 Home



FOLLOW US ON PINTEREST!

If cooler fall temps inspire you to spruce up your home's interiors, save your favorite projects and tips from each issue by following 5280 magazine on Pinterest. We've even organized them into helpful categories so you can easily find new ideas for kitchen remodels, home decor, and more.



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WHAT'S HOT IN DENVER DESIGN—NOW!



SIMPLY SUCCULENT

A Wash Park artist's sculptures bring gorgeous desert plants to homes in all climates.



DENVER ARTIST MICHELLE WEDDLE'S succulent sculptures so perfectly capture the plants' otherworldly shapes, you could almost forgive the online buyer who—unfamiliar with the arid-climate species—mistook them for the real thing.

After all, the molds Weddle uses to cast her line of plaster creations were made from live plants. It's a process that took her nearly six months to perfect before she launched her Etsy store, **Waterstone Succulents**, in spring 2012.

"It was a lot of experimenting and trying out different materials," says Weddle, who initially learned mold-making and casting as part of the BFA in studio art she earned from the University of Texas at Austin in 2007. Even before she started



Michelle Weddle in her home studio



sculpting succulents, agave and desert imagery showed up in her paintings. Weddle says she is as drawn to the plants' survival adaptations as she is to their juicy aesthetic.

"Everyone loves that succulents look full of water," Weddle says. "They definitely create an emotion people are attracted to." The artist tapped into that response when she founded Waterstone Succulents and—after being featured in *Real Simple's* December 2012 gift guide and picked up by West Elm's Cherry Creek store last summer—soon realized her sculptures had mass appeal. Weddle now uses her patent-pending method to make up to 60 a day (they retail for \$30 each) in her Wash

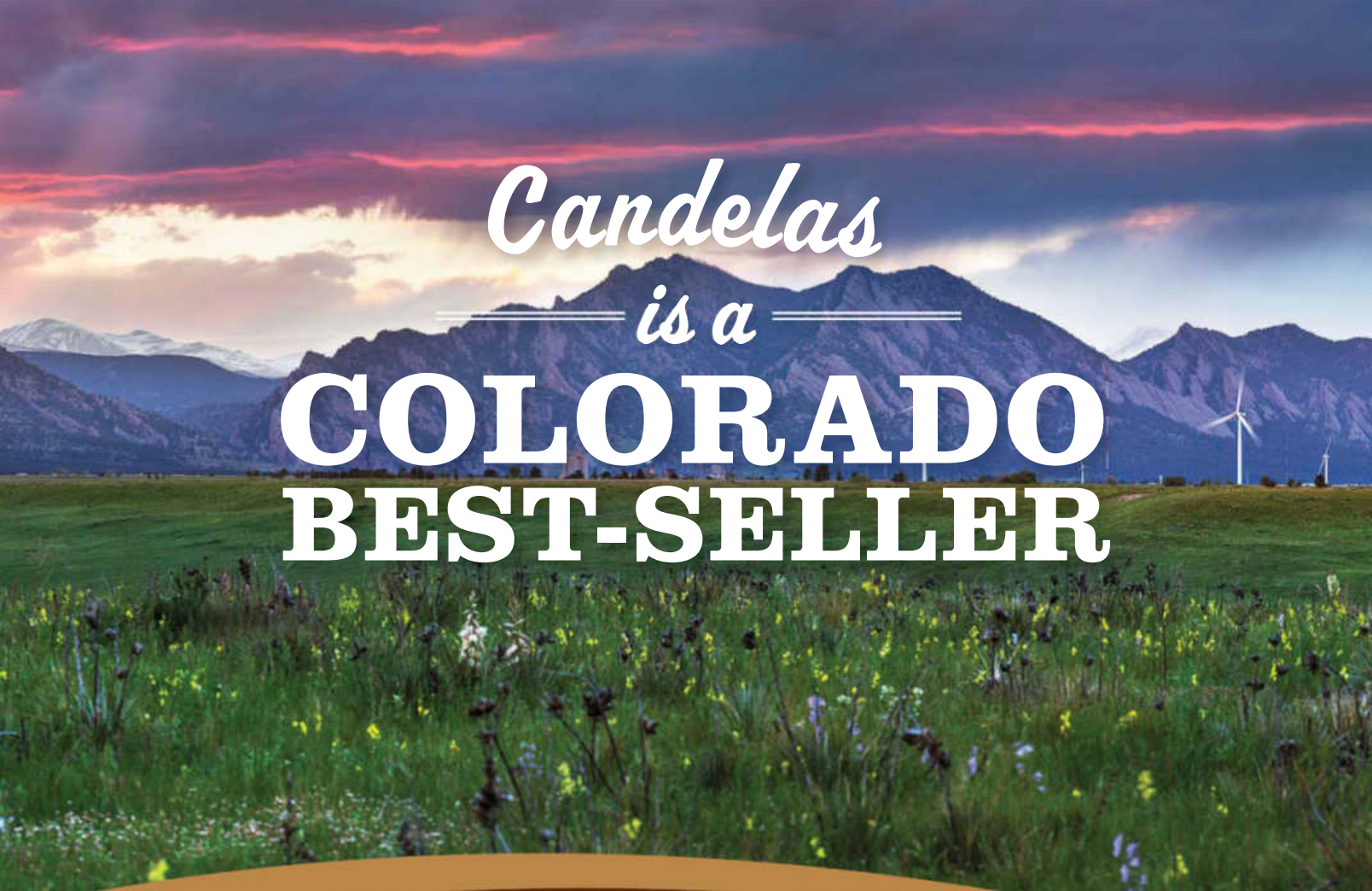


Park home studio. For those of us who don't quite have a green thumb, there's no more perfect houseplant. —JESSICA LARUSSO
etsy.com/shop/waterstonesucculents

Mix & Match

Weddle's containers and plant sculptures are all interchangeable, so you can keep things fresh by switching out the colors seasonally. The recently introduced rose gold is a warm hue perfect for fall, and we're loving the hot pink base for a stylish pick-me-up in a home office.





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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: (ART) COURTESY OF CORISSA NELSON; (TOWELS) COURTESY OF ANITA ASHFELD-SALTER; (LIGHT) COURTESY OF SALLY MAE PHOTOGRAPHY; (PLANT CRADLE) COURTESY OF MUDPUPPY; (SIGN) COURTESY OF MEREDITH MORAN PHOTOGRAPHY; (WIND CHIMES) COURTESY OF VITA MACROVSKIS; (TABLECLOTH) COURTESY OF MUDPUPPY; (MUGS) COURTESY OF MELISSA MAYA POTTERY



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HOW TO

SETTING THE BAR (CART)

Tips from designer Barbara Bork of Boulder's Lola Gray Home & Design on serving drinks with style this fall.

lolagrayhome.com —HILARY MASELL OSWALD

Even if you're making a signature cocktail, be sure to stock a few nonalcoholic options (in pretty bottles) for guests.

Use mixology books to add height to bottles of water or Italian soda. "If your guests love a drink you serve, make a copy of the recipe to send with them," Bork suggests.

Choose decanters in the same style but with different shapes for easy elegance.

Decorate with garnishes: Here, Bork used rose hips and citrus. "If I'm serving drinks with sugared rims, I'll set out a few bowls of different sugars," Bork says.

Stemware on the cart "invites guests to serve themselves and gives the party a comfortable vibe," Bork says. A variety of handsome liquors ensures you have something for everyone.

Mix metals!

Add a little whimsy with a fun accessory, such as this goldfish flask.



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SHOP TALK



Lon McGowan in Alpine Modern's flagship store

MODERN MAN

Tastemaker Lon McGowan seeks to elevate contemporary design in Colorado.

➔ IF YOU THINK BOULDER IS A BASTION of flannel-clad outdoor-fitness freaks, well, you're right—but not as right as you used to be. Lured by the city's booming tech scene, coastal transplants have injected a heightened taste for modern design into the People's Republic. It's from this melting pot (Patagonia's ruggedness meets Apple's clean lines) that design shop **Alpine Modern** emerged in summer 2014. As owner Lon McGowan created the brand, his primary question was: How do you take a modern home and design it so that it lives in harmony with the mountains and with nature?

The answers can be found just off the Pearl Street Mall in the company's flagship store—founded as LON Little Shop in 2013—where graceful terrariums (*at right*) from Canada's Score & Solder share space with plush rugs from Arvada's Auskin Sheepskin. The brand's reach, however, extends beyond home decor. Alpine Modern now encompasses a quarterly magazine, two retail storefronts (including a shop at the Boulder Museum of Contempo-



Alpine Modern now encompasses a quarterly magazine, two retail storefronts (including a shop at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art), and, as of July, a cafe—all of which promote contemporary mountain living.



rary Art), and, as of July, a cafe—all of which promote contemporary mountain living. Alpine Modern Café (*above*), located near Chautauqua Park, looks like a rustic stone cabin from the outside. But within, white walls, walnut tables, and Carrara marble countertops provide a clean, modern backdrop for the staff to serve local coffee from Huckleberry Roasters and MiddleState and simple, elegant meals (such as an egg served on toast with sea salt and olive oil) that call to mind a Parisian bistro.

McGowan—a Vail native who, after a decade in Seattle, moved to Boulder five years ago—hopes to expand the Alpine Modern brand to mountain communities around the world, and not just by opening more retail shops and cafes. This past summer, Alpine Modern released its first in-house line: travel bags, hats, backpacks, apparel, and leather belts made contemporary through sleek brass buckles and crisp stitching. "It feels like everything is very tourist-driven," McGowan says of mountain towns. "[Elevating the aesthetic] gives permission for designers, builders, and architects to think differently about how we build our communities." —SPENCER CAMPBELL alpinemodern.com



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BEFORE & AFTER

BREATHING ROOM

Clever design moves turn a cramped kitchen into a beautiful and functional gathering spot.

—SARAH GOLDBLATT

➔ FOR ERICA AND ELLIOTT Farber, part of the fun of cooking is being together in the kitchen of their Congress Park bungalow. It's a newly discovered pleasure: Before a recent remodel, the pair couldn't prep a meal at the same time. "There wasn't really space for two cooks," says Company KD designer Kristi Dinner, who reimaged the room within the constraints of its existing footprint. Here, her tips for adding elbow room without adding on.

BEFORE



IMPROVE FLOW

When space is tight, an L-shape layout with specific prep and cooking zones allows multiple chefs to work together.

Tip: Consider defining work-spaces with different finishes. In this kitchen, white cabinets and leathered black granite countertops delineate the cooking areas. The walnut island (with a red granite slab) is for staging.

RECLAIM SPACE

Eliminating a half-wall made room for a built-in breakfast nook that doubles as a home office.

Tip: Add comfortable cushions (upholstered here in Brentano's Coquette fabric) and plenty of outlets for work-from-home ease.

USE TEXTURE

Smaller spaces benefit from subtle visual cues to tie them together. Dinner layered diamond patterns both on the floor and in the tile backsplash to give the room interest.

Tip: Save space (no armoire needed) and get a style boost by choosing glass fronts for the cabinets in which you store pretty dishes and stemware.

ADD AN ISLAND

Most people think a kitchen island has to be large to be successful. In reality, Dinner explains, "very narrow islands are really effective for added prep space."

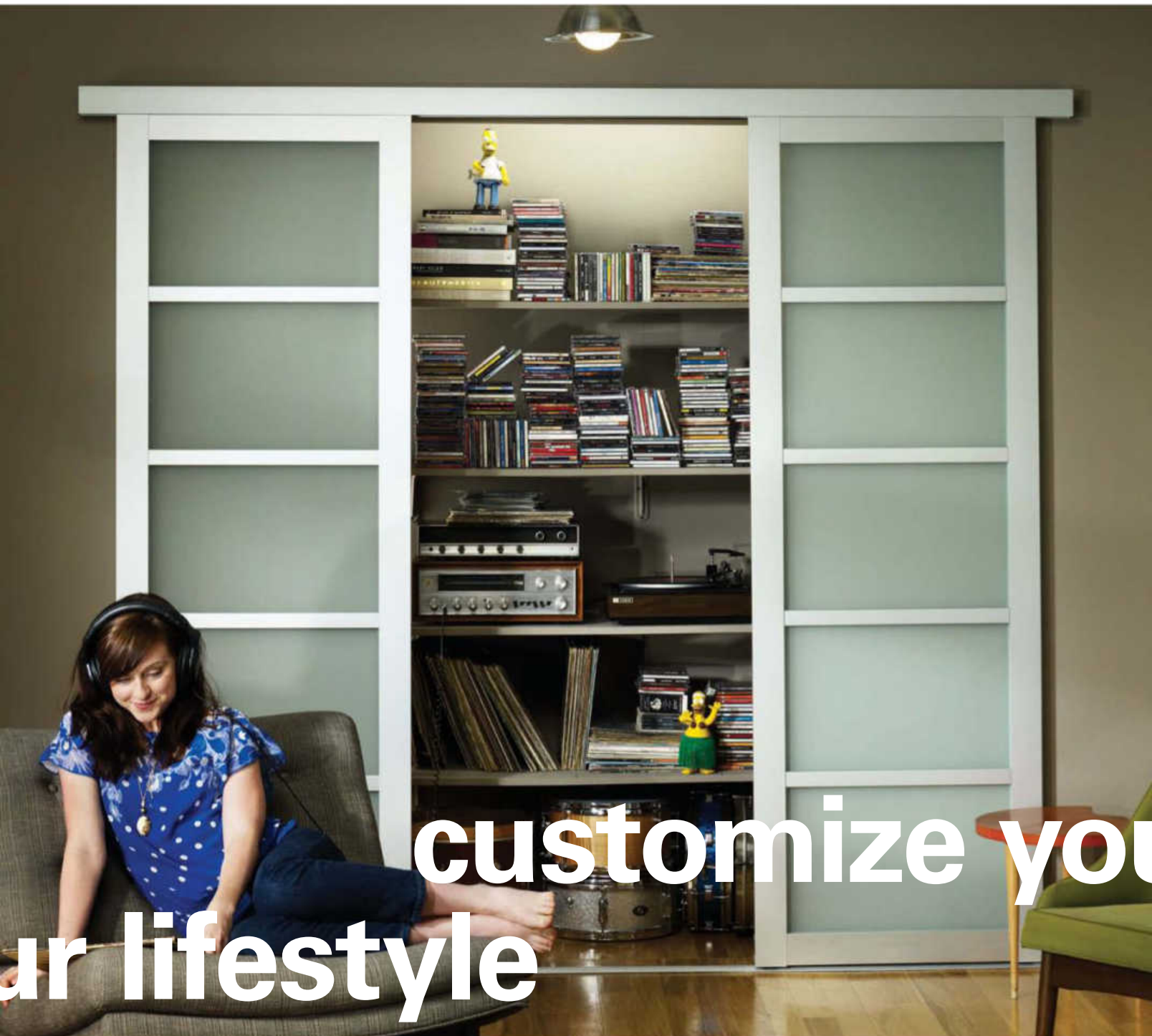
Tip: In smaller kitchens, consider skipping stools to avoid clutter.



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SHOPPING

PARTY TIME

Pinterest got you feeling inferior? No sweat. As fall ushers in another round of hosting duties, swing by these local favorites for no-fail fetes. —HMO

YOU'RE HOSTING:

A Bridal Shower

Go to: The Entertaining Shoppe

Yes, you could celebrate your best friend's upcoming nuptials with a shower decked out in kitschy plastic baubles—or you could visit this Denver-based website, whose owners curate a beautiful selection of party goods for just about any themed event. We have our eye on the Kitchen Wedding Shower with a farm-to-table feel; the setup is complete with pretty galvanized cake stands, burlap table runners, and vintage flatware.

Bonus: For each theme, the Entertaining Shoppe offers free menus, activities, playlists, and more, making you look like a party-throwing genius. (We won't tell.)

theentertainingshoppe.com



Festive drink stirrers



YOU'RE HOSTING:

A Harvest Party

Go to: Idea Chic

As the first frost approaches, it's time to pull up all those squashes and pumpkins and gather friends to share in your end-of-season bounty. Set the tone with harvest-inspired invitations and paper goods from this Glendale shop (and e-retail site), where co-owner Julie Sandusky designs all of the company's gorgeous pieces. Among our favorites are Idea Chic's popular letterpress greeting cards and custom invites (created in-house with help from her husband, David, and the pair's 1930s letterpress, named Hazel). The duo can help with everything from invitations to paper goods and favors: Use sheets of their orange chevron paper as placemats and send your friends home with sachets of mulling spices—and maybe a few surplus veggies, too.

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SHOPPING



YOU'RE HOSTING:

Thanksgiving Dinner

Go to: The Lark

This perfectly styled neighborhood spot in Country Club shows off classic tabletop pieces and seasonal decor that feels fresh (but never trendy). Choose handsome staples—serving plates, utensils, pitchers, vases—from established lines including Simon Pearce and Arte Italica to give your turkey feast instant elegance. Then make the kids' table pretty and hassle-free with colorful polycarbonate glasses and goblets and dishwasher-safe plates by Le Cadeaux.

1219 E. Fourth Ave., 303-744-7464, thelarkdenver.com

Tip: Pop into **La Cache** next door to pick up chic mismatched china, perfect for serving up pie and coffee. All proceeds from this charming consignment shop benefit Children's Hospital Colorado, making your dessert course especially sweet. 400 Downing St., 303-871-9605



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HOLIDAY-PREP TIP > Before you start carving your roasted bird this holiday season, swing by the Knife Guys, a locally owned knife- and kitchen-supply shop in Baker. Here, experts will sharpen your knives for \$3 each (and save you from the embarrassment of a mangled turkey).

11 N. Kalamath St., 303-693-0032, theknifeguys.com

YOU'RE HOSTING:

A Gameday Buffet

Go to: Swoozie's

Walk through this colorful party-supply shop in Cherry Creek North to find playful touches—everything from mascot-clad napkins and party favors to colorful ice buckets—that will make in-home tailgating as much fun as the real thing. (Yes, you really *do* need those Broncos tumblers.) An e-retailer with nine brick-and-mortar stores in seven states, all owned by Denver's Gart Companies, Swoozie's balances its themed goods with a regular stock of adorable baby gifts, custom invitations, birthday-party accessories, and swag for kids and tweens, making it a must-visit after football season, too.

589 Fillmore St., 720-328-7195, swoozies.com





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KIDS



SWEET DREAMS

Tips for creating a nursery with
round-the-clock style. —ANA MCKENZIE

➔ IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE UP ALL NIGHT WITH YOUR NEW BUNDLE OF JOY, you might as well have a nursery you enjoy spending time in. So figured the Wash Park couple who asked Conni Newsome and Ashley Larson of C&A Interiors to design a cozy, modern nursery for their baby girl. "The room is small, so we had to be selective with design components and color palette," Newsome says. "And they wanted a space their baby can grow into over the next few years."

Here, the designers' steps for creating a space perfect for naptime, late-night feedings, and everything in between—with decor that will last even longer than those all-nighters (we promise).

1 Make a statement with paint. Instead of choosing a bright color, which can be overwhelming, go bold with a pattern—try the ceiling—in more muted hues. These stripes (in Iced Lavender and Snow White, both from Benjamin Moore) are more sophisticated than a plain, predictable pink room but are still fun enough to make it feel like a child's space.

2 Choose furnishings that will grow with your child. Bookcases with baskets hold stuffed animals and toys in the early years; as baby gets older, remove the baskets to make room for books. A full-size dresser with a soft changing pad on top can function as a changing table until she's out of diapers, when it becomes a big-kid furnishing.

3 Layer in texture. Make the room both serene and playful by adding in textures, especially on the floor, where babies (and parents) spend a lot of time. Shag or sheepskin rugs—on top of your wall-to-wall carpet for extra comfort or on hardwood (with a reliable rug pad underneath)—are fun for little hands to explore and easy on crawlers' knees.

4 Make light work for you. A well-chosen light fixture can double as the room's whimsical focal point. Here, Newsome and Larson picked out a feather-wrapped pendant from Z Gallerie—a nod to the photos of baby animals. Tips: Choose a light with a "dim" option to reduce middle-of-the-night stumbling. Blackout shades help daytime naps.



• GET THE LOOK •



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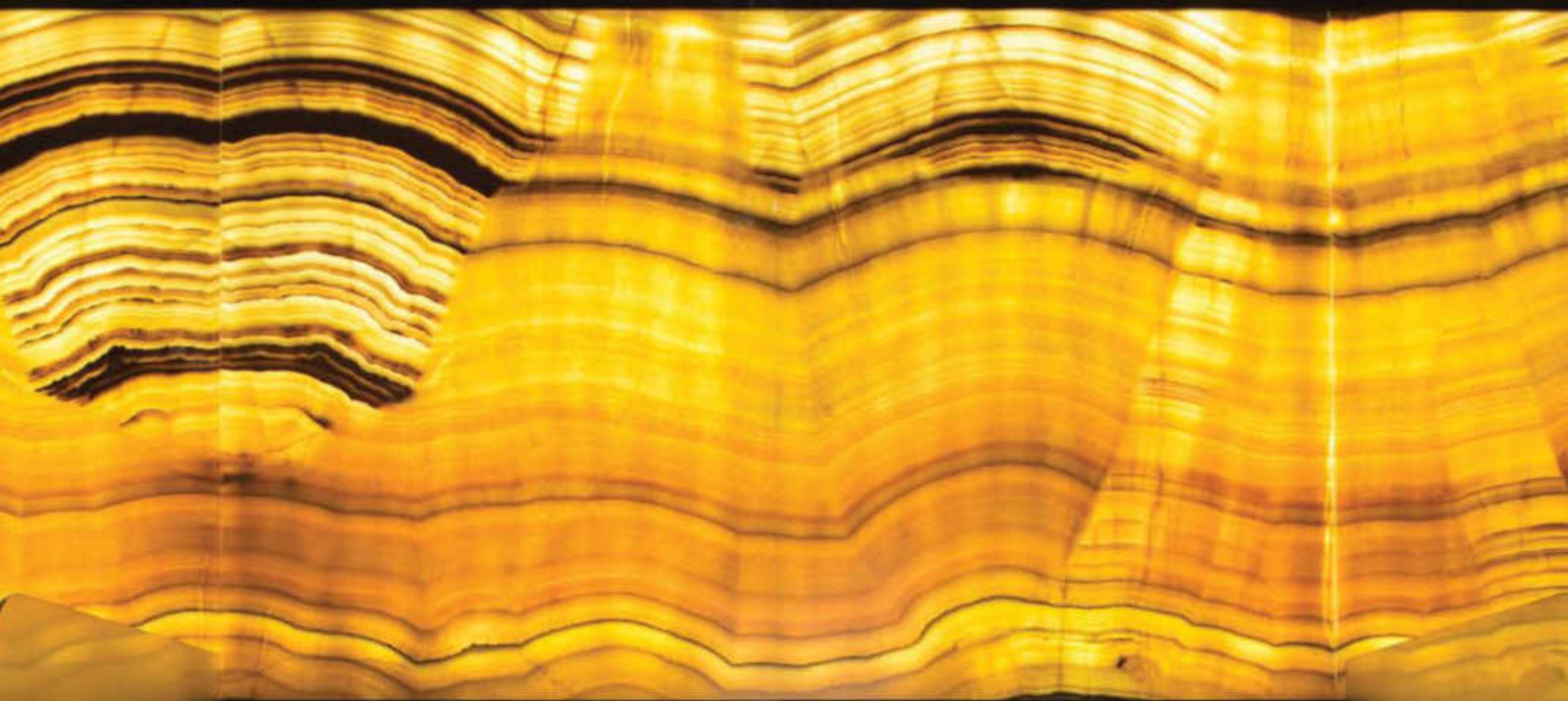


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AGAINST THE GRAIN

Geoffrey Keating handcrafts furniture your grandkids
will actually want to inherit. —CAROLINE EBERLY LONG





Keating at work in his home studio in Colorado Springs

➞ WHILE MANY DESIGN PROS KEEP A close watch on style blogs and design trends, Geoffrey Keating unapologetically looks the other way. The Colorado Springs furniture-maker, a fifth-generation woodworker whose ancestors built churches throughout the rural Southwest, believes high-quality design isn't defined by whatever is popular at a particular moment. Instead, Keating approaches his work with a reverence for sustainable materials and style—both of which need to stand the test of time.

So perhaps it's not surprising that the 39-year-old calls his aesthetic "contemporary antique." His pieces, made out of responsibly harvested and salvaged wood, are situated timelessly on the design spectrum between stark modern and fussy traditional. "I make pieces that stay relatively the same in terms of design and structure—pieces you won't have to throw away every couple of years," he says.

Keating came to furniture-making by way of a long detour through academia. While pursuing his Ph.D. in theology at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, he realized he was stifling his true desire:

to put his hands to work. So he picked up some tools as a way to stay sane amidst his studies, making furniture for friends and teaching himself the trade. The hobby, which got its start when his sister commissioned a dining table and word spread among friends and colleagues, eventually became a full-time gig. (He still gets his intellectual fix by listening to audio books or classical music while sanding furniture, which accounts for two-thirds of the time it takes him to make each piece.)



These days Keating designs and makes chairs, tables, desks, and other essentials out of the bottom-floor studio in his Colorado Springs home. (Keating and his wife recently renovated the 1897 building, formerly a corner market and home boutique shop). Traditional silhouettes—such as that of a Windsor chair—generally influence Keating's work, but when those forms



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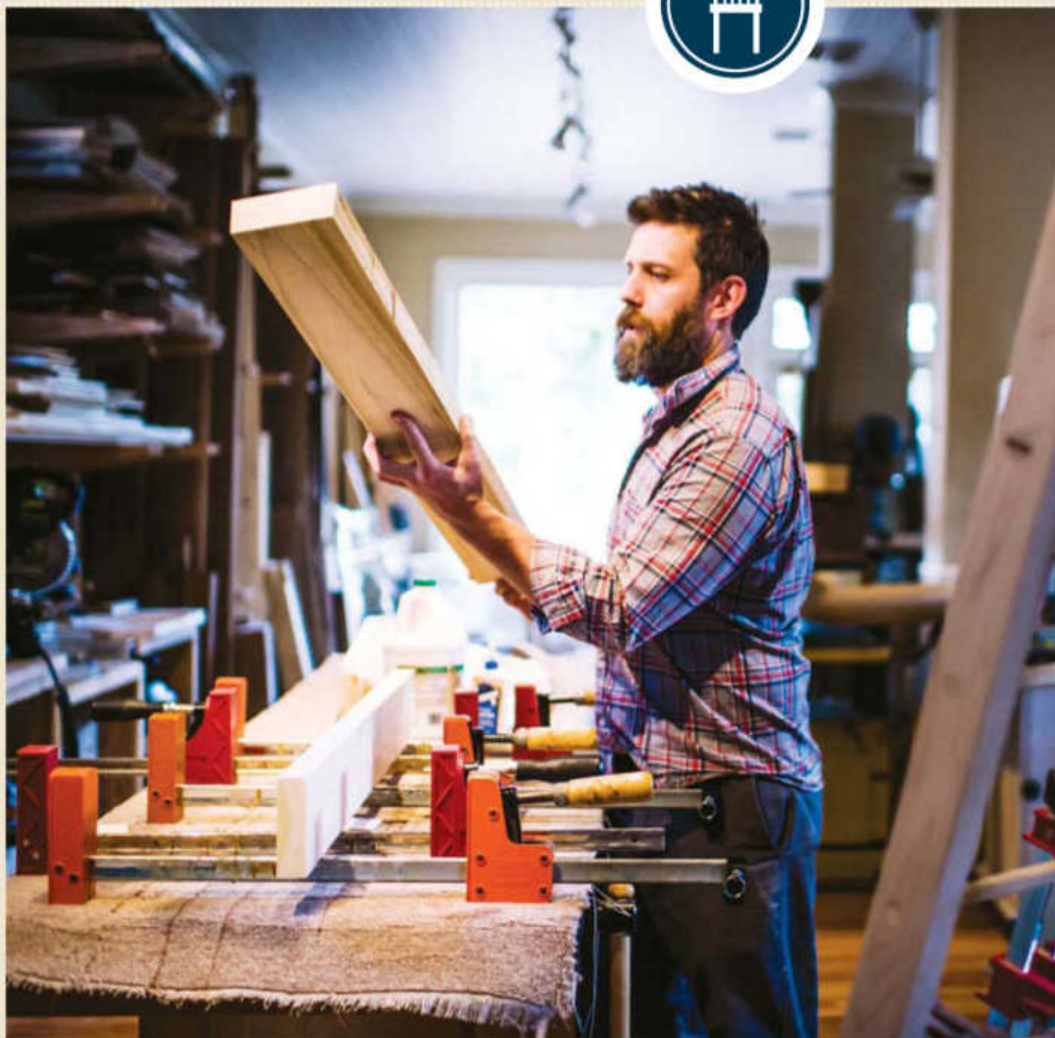
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filter through his head and hands, they come out looking more streamlined. You won't find ornate cabriole legs or scalloped backs, but the overall attitude of his pieces nods to classic styles.

Keating favors walnut for its range of tones, from creamy tan to dark brown. He combines those colors in single pieces of furniture—"painting with wood," he calls it—and purposefully creates contrast with the grain rather than lining it up. These artistic choices and subtle imperfections are the marks of the craftsman. "When you have your hands on a piece from beginning to end," Keating says, "every piece is going to turn out differently. You'll be able to see the little quirks." He's particularly fond of making chairs and rockers because of all their sculptural parts and compound angles.

When Keating needs inspiration, he simply steps out his door and into the grandeur of Colorado. And his work is designed, in part, to preserve that beauty. He's working against a "culture of planned obsolescence," he says, in which companies create pieces they know will



end up in the landfill, requiring you to buy replacements. We're confident Keating's pieces will share no such fate.

Keating approaches his work with a reverence for sustainable materials and style.

SURVIVAL SKILLS

Feeling the DIY spirit? Geoffrey Keating recently remodeled his 1897 Colorado Springs home (shown below) and lived to tell about it. Here's what he learned:

✓ **Find another place to stay—**preferably one with a flexible timeframe. "A lot of times you run into problems you didn't know existed. And one of the hardest things about any remodel is being in the space."

✓ **Honor the original.** "I'd start with the bigger picture of the space you're living in. Ask, *What's the general aesthetic? The major architectural features?* Then make changes that respond to that framework."

✓ **Plan for your furniture.** "Don't use generic sizing [for your rooms] and then fill them up," Keating says. "Instead, think through what type of furniture and art you want based on how you'll use the space."



TREAT THEM RIGHT

Three tips for caring for your all-wood furnishings.

1 | Don't use chemical cleaners to polish your furniture, regardless of the type of wood. They break down the finish. Instead, use a warm, damp cloth and immediately wipe the piece dry.

2 | Keating favors wax for refurbishing, which adds a layer of protection and brings a light sheen to faded furniture. He recommends applying Renaissance Wax or beeswax every three years (for tabletops, every eight to 12 months). If you're trying out a new product, test it in a less visible spot.

3 | Solid-wood furniture fades over time due to ambient light. And it's bound to change color more quickly—and sometimes irregularly—if it sits within reach of direct sunlight. Still, Keating suggests placing your furniture where it will be most functional. "Let the fade be part of the natural patina of the piece," he says.



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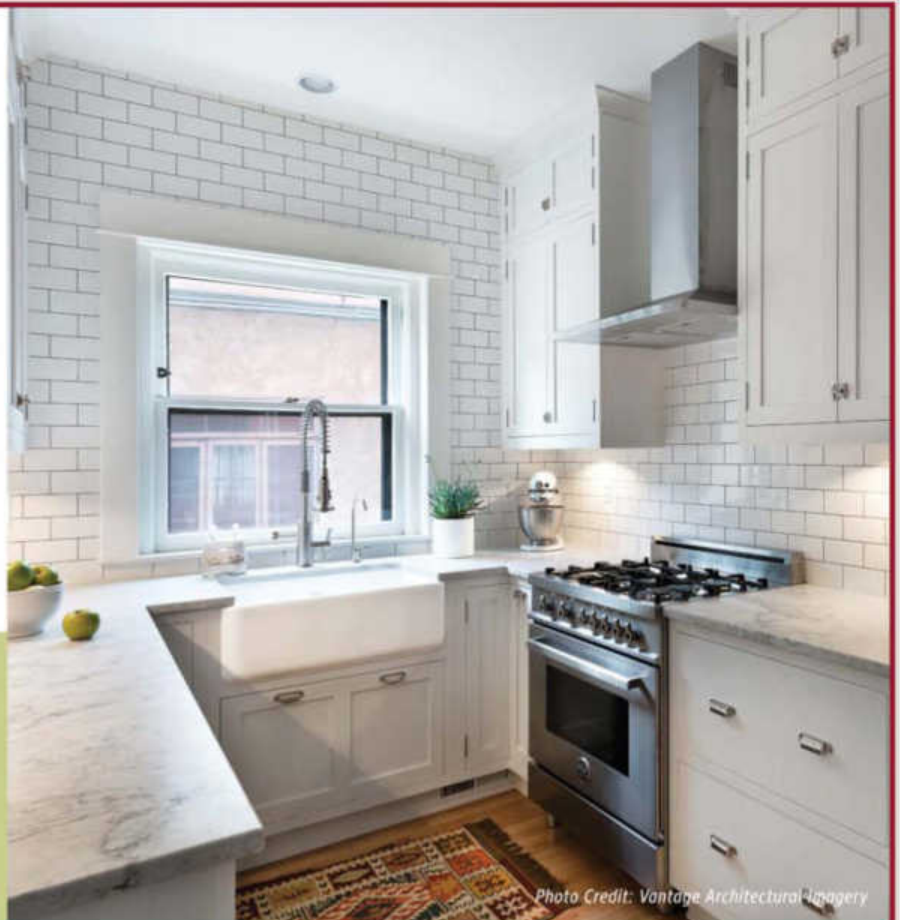


Photo Credit: Vantage Architectural Imagery



HOME MADE

The Front Range's own furniture-makers are churning out irresistible pieces. Here, eight we don't want to live without. —BRADLEY NESBITT



STOOL/ Corkscrew Stool, \$200, Custom Board and Steel, 1336 Sherman Drive, Longmont, 715-551-6105, boardandsteel.com



TABLE/ Concrete Table with Walnut Inlay, price available upon request, Concrete Pete, 303-229-2010, concretepete.com

SIDEBOARD/ Gazelle Sideboard in Aniline Dyed Walnut and Ivory Shagreen, price available upon request, Newell Design Studio, 303-298-8572, newelldesignstudio.com



CHAIR/ Grasshopper Lounge Chair in Black Hide and Green, \$1,150, DoubleButter, 17 Galapago St., 303-246-5759, doublebutter.com



SIDE TABLE/ Midcentury Small Side Table, \$425, RSH Studio, rshstudio.com



COAT RACK/ Arbor Coat Rack in Walnut, \$495, Housefish, 720-295-5068, housefish.com



HEADBOARD/ Slab Headboard Platform Bed, price available upon request, Walnut Street Woodworks, 3440 Walnut St., 303-297-9515, woodworkstudio.com



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CUSTOM JOB

There are loads of reasons to leave factory-made furniture behind and seek out a custom-designed piece: Maybe you have an unusual-size room, or perhaps you want to support local artisans. Although buying bespoke furniture is a bit more involved than popping over to the nearest big-box store, with these tips, you can go custom like a pro. —PATRICK DOYLE

1

Pinpoint your style.

Rip out pages from home magazines and browse design sites such as Houzz and Pinterest for ideas and inspiration. What catches your eye? "It doesn't even have to be furniture—it could just be something you like the lines of, or the color," says Ryan Dirksen, owner of Where Wood Meets Steel (wherewoodmeetssteel.com), a custom furniture company in Globeville.

2

Find the right designer.

"Furniture designers have specialties," says Kristen Terjesen, owner of Studio 10 (studio10interiordesign.com), an interior design firm in Baker. "Who you choose should depend on the style or materials you're looking for." Translation: Do you want a sleek end table for your contemporary home in Highland or a rustic bookcase for your ski chalet in Breckenridge? Hop on furniture-makers' websites and check out their previous work—or send emails asking for images of recent projects.

3

Have an opinion.

If you're not quite sure what you need, don't be afraid to ask for help—designers love coming up with solutions for your space. But once they start giving you options, you need to be decisive. "[It can be hard] when they say, 'You're the artist or craftsman, you figure it out,'" Dirksen says. "OK, great, but we're trying to pinpoint what you like." And no waffling: Changes in the middle of the process aren't kosher. "Once we've started building it, changes are almost impossible to recover from," says custom designer Ryan Ballard, owner of LoHi Furniture (lohifurniture.com).

4

Know your budget.

The best collaborations happen when artisans know at the outset what you can spend so they can match your budget with the materials and their designs. Also be aware that trying to drive a hard bargain may not be well-received. "I would not recommend that you negotiate," says Lane Oliver, owner of LEO Interior Design (leointeriordesign.com). "The craftsman has carefully considered the time and details necessary to create your special piece." Ready to commit? You can expect to pay up to 50 to 60 percent of the total fee up front, with the rest due upon delivery.

5

Take care.

You've likely invested a fair amount of money in your new piece, so if the designer tells you it will require some type of maintenance, be it oiling or a particular type of cleaning, don't let it slide. "For outdoor pieces in particular," Ballard says, "I always stress: This is going to need to be stained and sanded once a year." A little TLC will ensure that your custom furniture becomes the heirloom it was made to be.

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BESPOKE BUILDERS

Turn to these local artisans for your own unique piece. —HILARY MASELL OSWALD



WHERE WOOD MEETS STEEL

Just the facts: At his studio workshop in Globeville, owner Ryan Dirksen and his small crew produce contemporary pieces that show off fine materials and careful craftsmanship. Dirksen's artistic approach is an invaluable addition to the design process.

Go for: Tables. Among Dirksen's impressive portfolio are to-die-for pieces with clean lines and gorgeous finishes, tables lovely enough to turn even the simplest dishware into a setting fit for a swanky party.

720-318-6521,
wherewoodmeetssteel.com



ABLYSS UPHOLSTERY & REFINISHING

Just the facts: With an expert in-house refinisher (who makes old, dinged-up wood pieces look beautiful again) and restoration services that can bring antiques back to life, Aplyss is a one-stop shop for furniture fanatics. Its custom division can produce just about anything you want—and offers up the services of an interior designer to make sure the piece fits perfectly in your home's style and space.

Go for: Upholstered pieces. The company's extensive fabric collection—thousands of choices, from affordable lines such as Robert Allen to splurges like Beacon Hill—is the first stop in your search for the perfect new upholstered chair, ottoman, bench, or headboard. And if you don't fall in love with an option from Aplyss' selection, you're welcome to provide your own upholstery-grade fabric.

303-935-0949, ablyss.com



BRAVERMAN FURNITURE

Just the facts: Jim and Seth Braverman, a father-and-son duo, combine age-old techniques with modern-day designs in their Colorado Springs studio to create pretty much anything their clients dream up.

Go for: Statement-making consoles, desks, and other free-standing pieces. The Bravermans are masters of combining materials: say, walnut and Lucite or rustic and lacquered woods. Their skills show up in the details of their furnishings, which may actually make you want to get organized—or at least give you a beautiful place to hide all that clutter.

719-661-1613,
bravermanfurniture.com

A&E FINE WOODWORKING

Just the facts: A favorite among Colorado's savviest interior designers, this shop is dedicated to the finest techniques—both modern and traditional—of woodworking. The owners take seriously their roles as stewards of craftsmanship, so you'll not only get a gorgeous custom piece, but you'll also gain a little knowledge of design history.

Go for: Reproductions (carbon copies of antiques or iconic pieces) and replicas (similar in style to those originals). Score pieces that complement existing antiques or add a little Old World style to modern spaces.

720-252-2807,
aefinewoodworking.com



TURNING THE TABLES

Overwhelmed by the endless choices that come with designing a piece from scratch? **DIY Furniture Store**, a nationwide online venture based in Denver, empowers you to mix and match predetermined options to create the perfect table for your home. The website's easy-to-use interface shows you what your item will look like as you're designing it: Start by combining tabletops of various sizes, shapes, and materials (such as beetle-kill pine or rustic hickory) with myriad leg designs, ranging from hairpin metal to tapered walnut. Your semi-custom piece (a 48-inch round table starts around \$900) will be built by local designers at Rocky Mountain Table Company, which just opened a showroom at 5850 East Evans Avenue. And unlike most online stores, the shipping is free and the tables come pre-assembled. We call that a special delivery. diyfurniturestore.com —PD



A DIY Furniture Store table with Comet legs and a beetle-kill pine round top



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Calendar



A rendering of the
Sunset Idea House

SAVE THE DATE

This season's top arts, design, and architecture events and exhibits. —JESSICA LARUSSO

SEPTEMBER >

Through September 13 Sunset Idea House 2015 Tour

Ever wish you could make the dream house in your head a reality? Each year, Western lifestyle magazine *Sunset* does just that with the *Sunset Idea House*, and for 2015, the publication set up shop in Hilltop to transform a 1954 brick, ranch-style home into a 5,100-square-foot, two-story midcentury modern family home. Local gurus at architecture and construction firm Design Platform, CKY Design (interiors), and landscaping company Environmental Designs worked together on the project, which features a theater room, an outdoor kitchen and patio, and a rooftop deck. See it in person before it arrives in your mailbox in the November issue. *Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. 5131 E. First Ave., sunset.com/home/idea-houses/denver-idea-house. \$20.*

Through September 26 Digital Dimensions

Like many forms of technology—think computers, camera phones, and tablets—3-D printers started out as expensive pieces of equipment, used primarily by scientists and researchers. Today, however, lower prices and increased ac-

cess have liberated the device, and artists are now pushing the boundaries of its abilities in the creative realm. This juried exhibit at Niza Knoll Gallery (in the Art District on Santa Fe) will feature evocative sculptures brought to life by artists using 3-D printers—a new frontier for an age-old art form. *Wednesday–Friday, 1–5 p.m. (first and third Fridays, 4–8 p.m.), and Saturday, 1–4 p.m. Niza Knoll Gallery, 915 Santa Fe Drive, 303-953-1789, nizaknollgallery.com. Free.*



"Dream Vessel" by Judy Gardner

September 11–13 Colorado Fall Home Show

If you've been watching too much HGTV and have the home-reno bug, this three-day extravaganza is for you. Hundreds of exhibitors and pros from the American Society of Interior Designers will be lined up to answer your most pressing questions—*Can I re-glaze my tile, or do I need to replace it? How hard is it to expose brick?*—and a demonstration stage will feature sessions on kitchen design, remodel-



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ing, and accessorizing. All ticket sales go toward horticulture grants and scholarships for students pursuing such fields as green design, city planning, biology, and agriculture in Colorado, which means that even if you don't get to come home and swing a sledgehammer like your *Rehab Addict* heroes, you'll still make a (figurative) dent for someone else. *Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th St., 303-932-8100, coloradogardenfoundation.org. Adults \$10, seniors \$8, and kids 12 and under free.*

September 17–18

Denver Design District Yearly Sample Sale

For most of the year, Denver Design District stores can feel out of reach for many everyday shoppers, either because they only sell “to the trade” (design professionals) or because of budget restrictions. Both of those barriers are gone during the 300,000-square-foot campus’ annual sample sale. More than half of the 37 showrooms participate, offering discounts of up to 75 percent on off-the-floor designer furnishings, lighting, rugs, and accessories—most of which are from the current season. We’ll be making a beeline for Hoff Miller, Wesco Fabrics, and Columbine Showroom; you’d better get there early if you want to beat us to fabulous new sofas, window coverings, and dining tables. *Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-733-2455, denverdesign.com. Free.*

September 17–November 15

Fired: Iron, Ceramics, and Glass

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by David Bogus



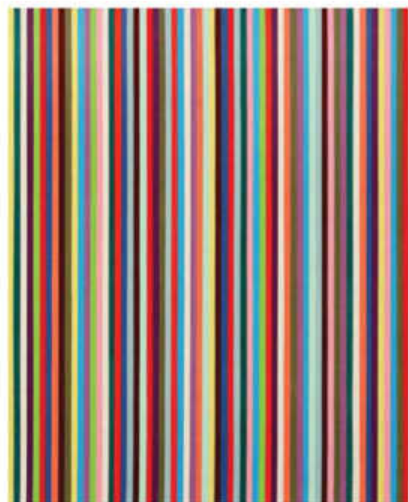
and light. The heat also allowed for artistic expression to expand beyond cave walls and into tangible, tactile mediums such as iron, ceramics, and glass. This Arvada Center for the Arts exhibit celebrates each of those materials in three distinct galleries, each with highlights of their own. Look for pieces by international glass masters Dale Chihuly and Lino Tagliapietra; explore the range of slip-cast ceramics, from functional works to installations; and watch a live iron pour on October 17. You're bound to appreciate how far we've come from our ancestors' days of stick-figure art. Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Sunday, 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, 720-898-7200, arvadacenter.org. Free.

OCTOBER >


October 2–November 30

Candy Coated

Just in time for the early winter blues, Artwork Network is brightening things up with *Candy Coated*, a veritable rainbow of works from Parker's Ulla Meyer, Texan Rob Reasoner, and Valentine Wolly from Washington, D.C. Although the exhibit will go beyond the surface hues to explore the paintings' deeper meanings—as well as the relationships among these three artists—we think it's totally acceptable just to go and ogle the beautiful spectrum of color. Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (open until 9 p.m. on first and third Fridays), and Saturday, 12–4 p.m. Artwork Network, 878 Santa Fe Drive, 303-388-7420, artworknetwork.com. Free.



Detail of "Untitled" by Rob Reasoner




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CALENDAR

October 9

Smart Greenhouses: Sustainable Greenhouse Design Workshop

In mourning for your verdant outdoor veggie garden? Explore your options for prolonging the harvest at this five-hour workshop. Penn and Cord Parmenter, who grow food year-round at 8,120 feet in Westcliffe, will teach you how to design a greenhouse that does more than just boost your spirits on dreary winter days: These smart structures operate without the use of fossil fuels, meaning that even on powder days, you can enjoy plucked-from-the-vine tomatoes, crisp lettuces, and perhaps even fresh-cut floral arrangements guilt-free. *Friday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St., 720-865-3500, botanicgardens.org. \$122 (\$109 for members).*

October 23–November 28

Creators: New Paintings by Sharon Bond Brown

Unlike sports stars and high-profile politicians, our city's premier artists don't generally have widespread face recognition. But there's no



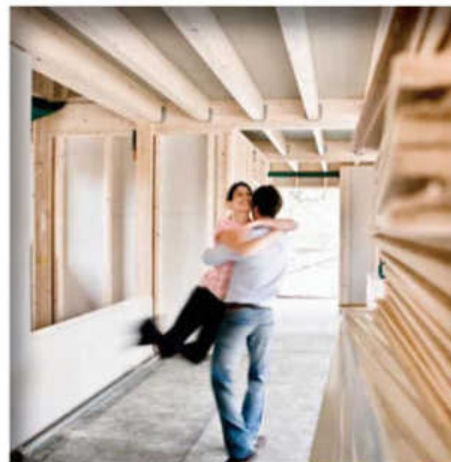
better time to get to know the Mile High City's creatives than Denver Arts Week (November 6 to 14)—and there's no better place than Mai Wyn Fine Art. The working studio and gallery will be showing painter Sharon Bond Brown's *Creators* series, which comprises portraits of local visual artists. The next time you pass one of them on the street, you'll be able to share your compliments in person. *Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Mai Wyn Fine Art, 744 Santa Fe Drive, 303-893-4182, maiwyn.com. Free.*

NOVEMBER >

November 6–December 19

New Works by Ed Fairburn

There's a common understanding that Coloradans are a people shaped by their geography—literally, as our limbs and lungs are strengthened on hikes to high peaks, and also in a more spiritual sense, as the natural beauty of both the Rocky Mountains to the west and the Eastern Plains inspires our minds and souls. U.K. artist Ed Fairburn captures both of these sentiments perfectly in his works, for which he uses the features of antique topographical maps



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CALENDAR

from all over the world to form human faces and figures. At this Mike Wright Gallery show, expect to find dozens of new pieces and limited editions; plenty of cartography from Colorado and the West ensure you'll find something that hits close to home. *Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–8 p.m. Mike Wright Gallery, 1412 Wazee St., 303-590-9800, mikewrightgallery.com. Free.*

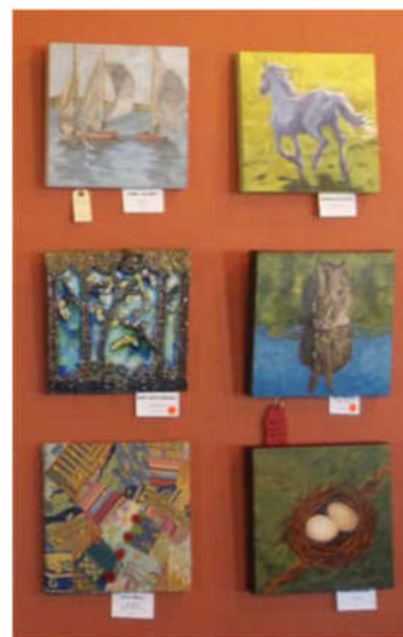


"Colorado Geological" by Ed Fairburn

November 18–December 12

Denver Square Foot Art Show

Art-buying can be intimidating, especially if you're on a budget: *How large a piece should I buy? And how much can I expect to spend?* The annual Denver Square Foot Art Show, now in its fourth year, answers those questions from the get-go; every work measures 12 by 12 inches and is priced at \$250. That doesn't mean, however, that you won't have any tough choices to make. With as many as 200 pieces in a variety of mediums—including paintings, drawings, and photography—give yourself plenty of time to consider your options. But rest assured that there's no wrong decision when it comes to spending your hard-earned dollars at this show because a portion of sales go to local nonprofits Socks for Clifford and Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue. *Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Bell Gallery, 1573 S. Pearl St., 303-282-7343, bellstudiogallery.com. Free.*





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Decorating



THE LAYERED LOOK

Denver's Duet Design Group takes a small Cheesman Park condo from blank canvas to vibrant home by following a few key design rules. —JULIE DUGDALE



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A MORE NATURAL APPROACH TO NEW URBANISM.



➞ THIS CHEESMAN PARK CONDO WAS THE perfect choice for homeowner Len Keating: historic building, great neighborhood, two bedrooms, not too big. But the 1,343-square-foot space needed a start-from-scratch decor overhaul—something Keating knew he couldn't tackle alone. Enter Duet Design Group's Devon Tobin and Miranda Cullen, who set out to transform the nondescript condo into an elegant, masculine-meets-preppy space. "We used fabrics to give it a Ralph Lauren, East Coast vibe and added a few heavier, rustic furnishings to balance it out," Tobin says. Here, the designers' top tips for designing big and bold in a small space.

FEAR NOT WALLPAPER

Previous page and above: Wallpaper is the perfect style backdrop because it can serve different purposes in each room. "In the dining room, the wallpaper [Chang-ing Guards by Lizzie Allen] is art," designer Devon Tobin says. "In the great room, it's texture. The silk grasscloth [by John Brooks] contrasts with the walls [Concord Ivory by Benjamin Moore] to bring newness to the space."



GO FOR CUSTOM FURNITURE

Left: Furniture can overwhelm small spaces. Here, homeowner Len Keating wanted a lot of seating for entertaining, but off-the-shelf pieces just wouldn't fit. Solution? Designers Tobin and Miranda Cullen hired a custom furniture-maker to build and upholster smaller-scale pieces. Custom seating includes the head chairs in the dining room (upholstered in Schumacher's Luberon Plaid) and the pair of side chairs in the living room (upholstered in Schumacher's Imperial Trellis II).



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FIGURE OUT FUNCTION

Above: "Think about how you'll use a room before deciding how you want it to look," Tobin says. For the master bedroom, Keating's request was that it be a "calm, sophisticated oasis." With this in mind, the designers chose varying shades of blue and tonal whites for the decor. They avoided red entirely (even though it's a common theme elsewhere in the house) because it can be an energizing color. Above the bed (which was built by an Amish craftsman in Pennsylvania) a painting of a coastal scene reinforces the relaxing vibe. Custom bedding (by Donghia) offers a fresh take on the classic stripe.



Pillow Talk

Three rules for perfectly layered throw pillows.

Scale: Too many big shapes or too many tiny prints on top of each other are "tough on the eyes," says Tobin. "Make sure the patterns scale down." In the living room, the antlers are a big; the florals read medium; and the plaid feels small.

Color: If your base is neutral, you have carte blanche to go with bold colors and graphic accents, but make sure you choose a grounding color. Start with the solid block, then build more delicate patterns, such as florals, on top—as long as you have a splash of that grounding shade. The color in common will tie your pieces together, Tobin says.

Print: Add panache by mixing in patterns that are unexpected. Florals don't always feel feminine, especially if they find counterpoints in bold, graphic, masculine prints like, say, antlers or plaid. Not feeling quite so daring? Consider a graphic take on a floral, such as the trellis print on the pair of living room armchairs.

STICK WITH A COLOR

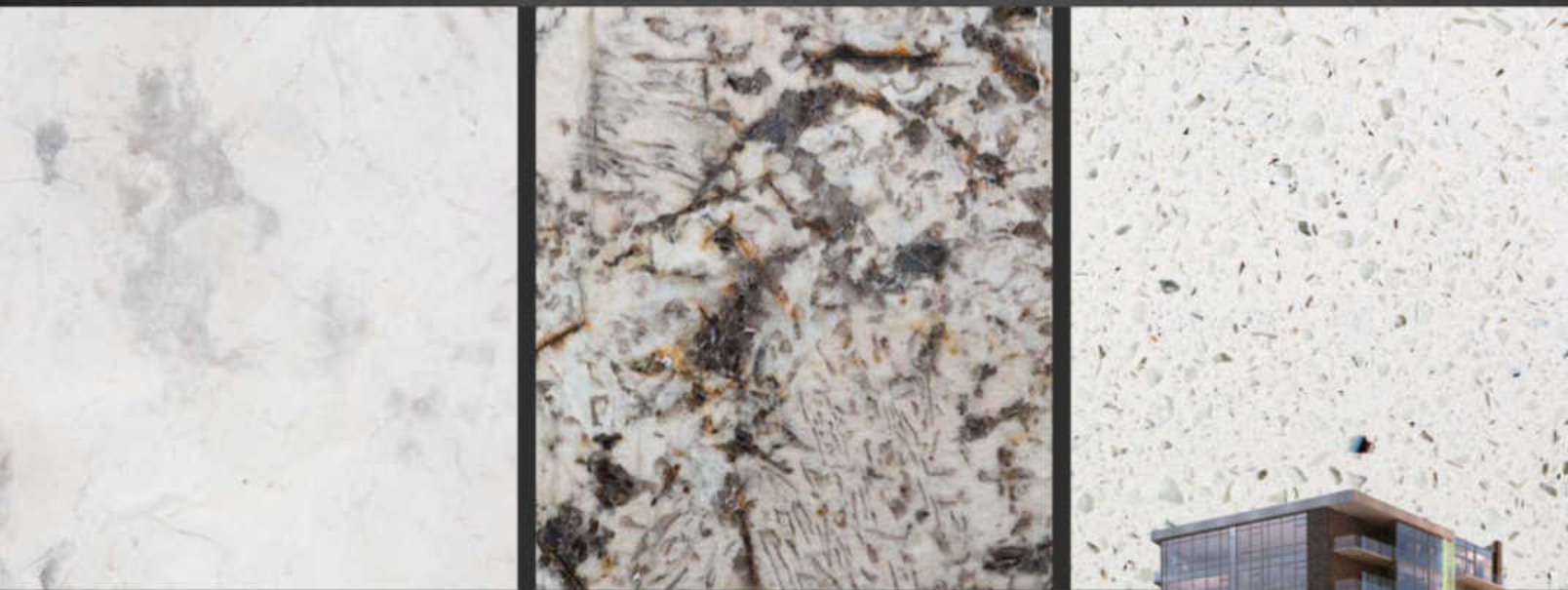
Bottom left and below: Continuity in your home's color palette provides a cohesive feel, Tobin says. Throughout the condo, she kept one scheme in mind: "The client's style lent itself to saturated reds, yellows, and blues." But, she says, colors don't have to match perfectly. Some variety makes for greater interest. Steal a page from her playbook with the office combo: The walls are painted in Benjamin Moore's Serenata; window treatments are Lee Jofa Sassari Ikat. ■





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Galleries



< "D. Squared" by Tracy Stuckey at Visions West Gallery

1. VISIONS WEST GALLERY

Perhaps no gallery is a better reflection of modern-day Denver: Visions West (with Montana outposts in Livingston and Bozeman) showcases work with Western roots through a contemporary prism. Fort Collins artist Tracy Stuckey's paintings, for example, manipulate Western mythology by depicting water-gun shootouts and scantily clad schoolmarms.

Show To Know: In October, as part of a larger show the gallery will display "Pool Party," a six-by-20-foot pencil drawing by celebrated California artist Adonna Khare that depicts predator (tiger) and prey (zebra) in—no surprise—a pool.

1715 Wazee St., 303-292-0909, visionswestgallery.com

2. MUDHEAD GALLERY

Not to be confused with its derisive slang definition (a person who's less than bright), the word "mudhead" denotes traditional Pueblo clown figurines called "koshares." And although this 35-year-old gallery meets antique shop has lots of them in its glass cases, it also stocks plenty of authentic clay pottery fired by Hopi, Acoma, and Santa Clara pueblos, as well as bronze sculptures of cowboys and American Indians and gold and silver jewelry.



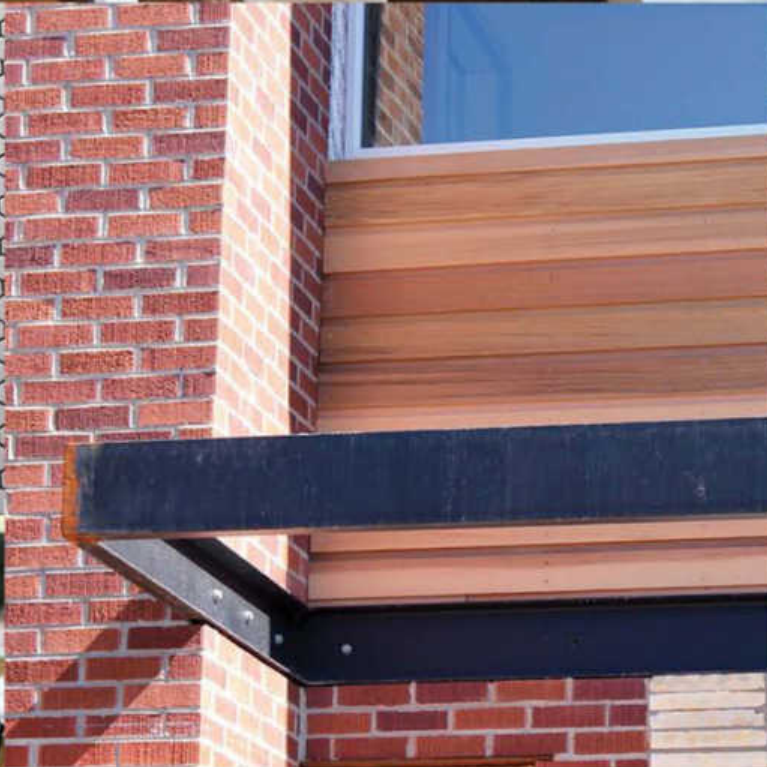
By Burel Naha

1720 Wazee St., 303-293-0007, mudheadgallery.com

LODO ART WALK

From Union Station to Larimer Square, a stroll through LoDo reveals some of Denver's most storied locales. But behind the revitalized district's charming storefronts, you'll find work from forward-thinking modern artists—with some dynamic historic pieces mixed in, of course. Here, we take you inside nine of LoDo's esteemed, provocative galleries and share pros' best tips for creating your own exhibition at home. —SPENCER CAMPBELL





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Mike Wright Gallery

3. MIKE WRIGHT GALLERY

We wouldn't call this spot explicit, but let's just say it's not afraid of the female form. The gallery also shakes off the shackles of the conventional art scene with its highly accessible works: Abstract bubblelike cloud paintings from Denver's Laura Guese, for one, are irresistibly engaging (and relatively affordable, with 16-by-16-inch works starting at \$500). Factor in the on-site wine bar for liquid courage, and beginners might find the fortitude to pick up some original art.

1412 Wazee St., 303-590-9800,
mikewrightgallery.com



"Aggregate" by Mike Womack
at David B. Smith Gallery



"265" by Mariah Robertson

4. DAVID B. SMITH GALLERY

Inside this simple space, David B. Smith assembles some of the most exciting exhibits in town. Last spring's *Constructed Histories*, created by former Denver Art Museum curator of contemporary art William Morrow, lured crowds to the front window with Jeremy Dean's "Everything That Rises," 16 salvaged folding chairs in a vertical circle. The contemporary art you'll find here might not be local or particularly accessible, but it's guaranteed to be fascinating.

1543 Wazee St., 303-893-4234,
davidbsmithgallery.com

ART SMART

GO SANS FRAME > "A 'gallery wrap' is a piece of canvas wrapped around a stretcher bar and tacked to the back. Some artists continue the image around the sides of the stretcher bar, and some paint the sides black. Either way, it means you can hang the art on the wall without a frame. Contemporary art—particularly very large pieces—looks fabulous with a clean look." —CANDICE PULLIAM, PRINCIPAL AND ART CONSULTANT, ART SERVICES COMPANY



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Brandon Bultman's
"Búfalo Blanco" at
Robischon Gallery

5. ROBISCHON GALLERY

The old master of Denver's art scene, this nearly 40-year-old contemporary gallery doesn't deal in facile art. Monthly rotating exhibits offer pieces by world-renowned Iraqi, Chinese, and European artists, but Robischon also takes fliers on promising locals such as Christine Buchsbaum, who employs photography to create images she describes as "between consciousness and my imaginary world."

Show To Know: From mid-September to November, the gallery is turning its space over to local ceramist Kim Dickey, whose elaborate quatrefoil ceramic pieces are both monumental and decorative.

1740 Wazee St., 303-298-7788, robischongallery.com



Halim Al Karim's
Eternal Love exhibition



"My Second Dream"
by Judy Pfaff

ART SMART

CHOOSE WISELY > "If you're considering buying two pieces, one that you love and one that you struggle with, go with the one you struggle with. Over time, you're going to get so much more out of engaging with its challenges and, eventually, develop a new perspective." —JIM ROBISCHON, CO-OWNER, ROBISCHON GALLERY

6. SALLY CENTIGRADE ART GALLERY

This gallery, which relocated to Larimer Square from Portland, Oregon, in September 2014, intentionally shuns "fine" art—but that doesn't mean shopping here is slumming it. Works from the self-described lowbrow movement are "kitschy and creepy," says owner Myah Bailey (at right), which sounds like a whole lot of fun to us. Shows change about every 30 days and usually pair local artists with national ones, creating clever conversations and contrasts—and the opportunity to score everything from \$10 giclée prints to \$2,000 original paintings.



Show To Know: Visit Sally Centigrade from mid-September to November to check out small (5.5-by-seven-inch) wooden diamonds painted by 50 different artists; among the styles on display is graffiti, perfect for the man cave or as a conversation-starter in the living room.

1423 Larimer St., Suite 080, 303-942-9474, sallycentigrade.com



"Burn My Shadows" by Ken Keirns

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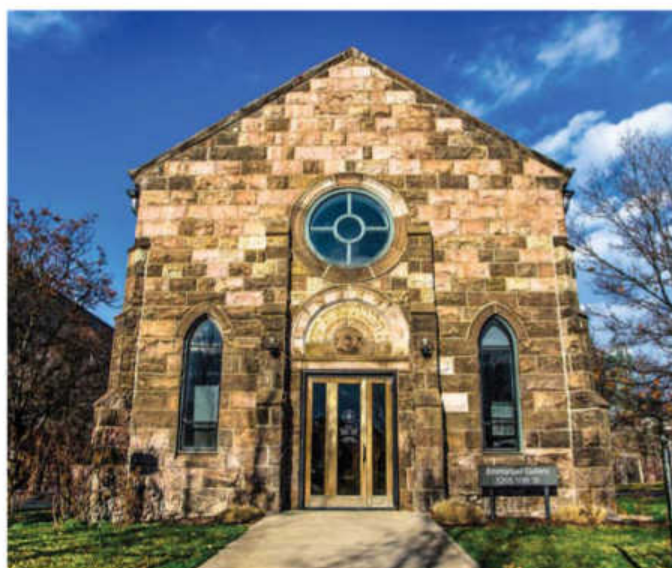


David Cook Galleries

7. SLOANE GALLERY OF ART

While living in her native Russia, Mina Litinsky was forced to keep her “nonconformist” art shows secret. She’s had no such issues in the United States. Since it opened in 1981, Sloane has come to represent more than 50 contemporary and modern Russian, Russian-American, and former Soviet Bloc artists, some of whom have found their way into the Guggenheim Museum (for example, Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid, creators of the pop art-esque “Lenin Hails A Cab”).

1777 Larimer St., Suite 102B,
303-595-4230,
sloanegalleryofart.com



8. EMMANUEL GALLERY

A perfect spot to scout promising talent, Auraria Campus’ Emmanuel Gallery works with the University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State University, and Community College of Denver to exhibit pieces by students and faculty, as well as other up-and-coming local artists. Denverite Adam Milner showed here before getting space at the David B. Smith Gallery this past summer.

1201 10th St., 303-556-8337, emmanuelgallery.org

9. DAVID COOK GALLERIES

After entering the front door, you have a difficult choice: Turn left and find yourself surrounded by paintings of Colorado and the West from 20th-century artists such as Denver’s own modernist icon Vance Kirkland and Sven Birger Sandzén (a Swedish-American impressionist who had a fondness for wild



Vance Kirkland’s
“Space #21”

landscapes). Turn right and enter space dedicated to museum-quality Native American art, including “parfleches” (decorated bags made of untanned hide), bead- and quill-work, and gorgeous Navajo textiles that date as far back as 1850.

1637 Wazee St., 303-623-8181,
davidcookgalleries.com

ART SMART

LIGHT RIGHT > “Lighting is so important. Ideally, set your fixtures so that the light strikes the wall at 30 to 45 degrees, measured to a point at eye level on the wall. Since everyone’s eye level is different, a good rule of thumb for hanging art is about 60 inches from the floor to the center of the piece. So here’s my best advice: On an eight-foot ceiling, place your track or recessed can light 20 to 36 inches away from the wall; on a 10-foot ceiling, 42 to 60 inches from the wall. LEDs are popular to light art, but I still prefer the pure white light of halogen MR16 lamps.” —PULLIAM ■



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Happy Place

Interior designer
Deidre Oliver
talks whimsical
glamour, wood
beams, and
easy style in her
Niwot home.

BY JULIE DUGDALE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
EMILY MINTON REDFIELD

GREAT ROOM

"This is where we hang out," interior designer and homeowner Deidre Oliver says. "The driving force was furniture that's functional and comfortable." The sofas by Thomas Pheasant for Baker are upholstered in Schumacher linen, which is a perfect textural contrast to the leather ottoman by Baker. "But I love to add in glamour, too," she says: See the Delano console by Currey & Company and the Orleans side table by Arteriors (*previous spread*), both with custom marble tops.





DEIDRE OLIVER AND HER husband left Chicago in 1998 to raise their three children in a more outdoorsy locale. Their destination: Niwot, a bucolic town with about 4,000 residents just north of Boulder. They bought an acre upon which to build a home (designed by Boulder's MQ Architecture & Design), and Oliver founded her interior design firm, Oliver Designs, that same year. The classic house has changed with the family and the designer's tastes. Here's the latest rendition—and how she achieved it.

5280 Home: Walk us through the style you've cultivated.

Deidre Oliver: For this home, I'd say it's "relaxed sophistication." We have two young grandsons now, so things couldn't be too fussy or formal. Our formula was to mix a bit of rustic with some modern furnishings. We did neutrals but treated the fabrics with nanotechnology—so basically, the fabrics are bulletproof.

What's the secret to making each room stand out?

In every room, I like to have one or two pieces to define the space. In the great room, the Bling chandelier by Robert Abbey really sets the tone. It's fun and glamorous—not your traditional chandelier in what was a really traditional room. It freshens it up.

You've struck the right balance of accessories and accents. It's never too much.

The key to seamlessness is to edit regularly and wisely. It's so easy. Take a look at a photo of the room; what you need to edit jumps out pretty quickly.



Happy Place

ENTRYWAY

Oliver fell in love with this Charles Pollock Spanish side table from Egg & Dart nine months before she finally bought it for the entryway. Together with the textured grasscloth (Phillip Jeffries Extra Fine Arrowroot paper in Tobacco), black ceiling, coral-inspired Diallo chandelier by Arteriors, and leather-trimmed hide rug by Edelman Leather, it creates an inviting—and fun—first impression.

OFFICE

Oliver designed her gold-accented office—with a Parisian chandelier by Visual Comfort and a gilded-metal floor lamp by Aerin Lauder—around what she considers one of the home's best features: the windows. "I spend a lot of time in my office. It's a woman's space," says Oliver, who chose a sofa in Brunschwig & Fils silk velvet and a Cherner leather and walnut task chair. "The gold and brass make me happy. It's warm. Psychologically, I think it's a great color palette for a space you need to work in."



Happy Place

DINING AREA

Light spills into the less formal dining space, which is anchored by a custom Nuevo table and leather chairs by Tonin Casa and accented by Barbara Barry French Cuff drum pendant lighting. A giclée print—"Biba," by the artist Elige—adds drama and color to the otherwise neutral room.

KITCHEN

Industrial Gale pendant lights by Thomas O'Brien bring a chic, edgy feel to a kitchen with rustic pine cabinets. Barstools by Cherner Chair Company and a glass tile backsplash (Ann Sacks Profile glass mosaic) round out the updated, modern vibe.



If I don't end up editing, even a well-thought-out room doesn't look quite right.

So less is more?

I'm saying you should allow for negative space. Sometimes in a great room with a good focal point, like a fireplace, it's really nice to have a quiet place to let your eye rest.

Yet you've got some interesting extras in all the right places.

If you want to get the details right, find accessories you absolutely love. Like the candlesticks on the mantel: I saw them in New York at an antique shop, and I had to have them. They don't really match anything, but they're not supposed to. They're in a place where they're getting the attention they deserve.

The wood beams are gorgeous. How did that inform your design?

The wood beams are a must-have for us. The beams in the great room and the pine kitchen cabinets are kind of a nod to the fact that my husband lives here, too. This home has seen its share of updates, but we've kept those cabinets and original beams for character; I love the look with the modern furniture.

Redecorating can add up; when is it important to splurge?

If you're remodeling entirely, invest your money into good bones. Beef up your architecture. Good flooring, great paint...everything else will follow. If you're just redecorating, splurge on lighting, sofas, and chairs. If you're going to









sit on it, buy the best you can afford. You can always reupholster it later. With lighting, great fixtures have the ability to transform a space.

How do you go about choosing light fixtures?

I tell clients that lighting is the jewelry. You need to think about function first: Will you need ambient light or reading light? Then consider: What style do you want to achieve? Some people want a touch of modern in a traditional space. Lighting is a great place to inject a bit of whimsy.

Like the coral chandelier in the entryway: It's striking against the unexpected black ceiling.

When you want to call

attention to something, use an accent wall. In this case, I wanted the eyes to be drawn up. Dark paint makes the space more fun, but also more intimate. I painted the ceiling black, and all of a sudden things just came alive. The entryway took on a dramatic life of its own.

Any advice for those of us who want to redecorate but don't know where to start?

We are the sum of our experiences, and if our style reflects that, it makes for a much more interesting design. The goal is not to feel like your house looks like something out of a magazine or coffee-table book. Rather, if you like a particular style, add your own stamp to it and make it truly yours. ■

MASTER BEDROOM

Oliver's light, airy scheme in the master bedroom includes well-placed accents (mirror by Arteriors, lamps by Aerin Lauder) and soothing furnishings (bed by Poltrona Frau, chair upholstered in Stroheim fabric). "The warm gilded metals, creamy palette, and sandy-colored walls [Farrow & Ball paint in Archive] add to the cozy feel of the space," Oliver says. "It's exactly what we need at the end of the day."

GARDEN

In the lush backyard, Oliver made good use of the property's natural slope by installing a water feature and stone pathway. The concept—which includes a pond and bubbling waterfall—was executed by Randy Brady of Creative Landscape Artists and adds visual interest to the patio.

(GARDEN) COURTESY OF DEIDRE OLIVER

A NEW PERSPECTIVE



A photograph of a modern, single-story house with large windows and a flat roof, situated on a green lawn. In the background, there are rugged mountains with some peaks covered in snow, all illuminated by the warm, orange and pink light of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a deep blue with some wispy clouds.

A Colorado Springs couple starts fresh after losing it all. **BY PATRICK DOYLE**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID LAUER

TEN DAYS AFTER THE WALDO Canyon Fire ravaged more than 18,000 acres and nearly 350 homes in June 2012, a retired Army couple spotted a slice of hope just south of Colorado Springs' Garden of the Gods Club and Resort: an empty lot on a ridge looking west. The pair's townhome had been reduced to ash, and though their insurance company would pay to rebuild the home, that gorgeous piece of property inspired a bold new plan: Sell the townhome when it was finished and build a contemporary

house that embraced the beauty of a place they still loved. It would be a fresh start in an unparalleled location. "The lot sits on a rim overlooking the Front Range, Pikes Peak, and Garden of the Gods," contractor Charlie Shea says. "It's considered some of the best real estate in the area—the 'Gold Coast' of Colorado Springs."

With the exception of a computer and a couple of suitcases hastily packed during the evacuation, the homeowners lost everything in the fire, so they were starting from





“WHEN THAT PIVOT DOOR GLIDES OPEN, YOU ARE AWESTRUCK.”

scratch. Their requests for the team of local design mavericks Shea assembled—including architectural designer Larry Gilland of LGA Studios and interior designer Cindy Senger of the Senger Design Group—were straightforward: a contemporary, minimalist home; a space for their grandchildren to stay; and a design that highlighted the gorgeous views of the mountains. “They wanted a quiet, serene place and palette,” Senger says, a reflection of the couple’s commitment to “honoring life and what they are given, rather than focusing on what they lost.”

Gilland designed a large, spare home divided into three sections. Two wings—one with the master bedroom and bath

and the grandkids’ bunk room, the other with guest rooms—are connected by the common spaces, which include a kitchen and an enormous great room that spills out onto a patio on the edge of the ridge.

Every space pays homage to the views, starting with the entrance. While browsing for ideas on home-design website Houzz, the homeowners came across a pivot door, which swings on a central swivel rather than hinges. The design inspired them to tap Colorado Springs craftsman Randy Zimdahl of Woodworks Millshop, who translated their vision into a 500-pound behemoth of a front door that opens to expose sightlines straight through the back of the house to the moun-

tains. “When that pivot door glides open,” Senger says, “you are awestruck.”

Inside, the great room’s 22-foot NanaWall glass window system slides into pockets in the walls, giving expansive access to the west-facing courtyard. “They have a blurred line between interior and exterior when the NanaWall is open,” Senger says. “You move between the great room and the patio, and it just feels like you’re in Garden of the Gods.” Similar views are found in the master bedroom and bathroom, which has a corner window above his and her vanities, making even tooth-brushing at sunrise a highlight.

In a perfect nature-meets-nurture combination, the home’s

Above: A sculptural island, topped with a combination of hickory and engineered quartz stone by Cambria, is a handsome focal point in the kitchen. The stools are from Design Within Reach.

Facing page, top: The entrance of the home boasts a custom pivot door (designed by Randy Zimdahl, a local craftsman) that swings open to frame the mountains beyond.

Facing page, bottom: The expansive great room shows off stunning views of Garden of the Gods through a 22-foot sliding NanaWall.

Previous spread: The home’s location on a ridge means the views will never be interrupted—and underscores why the area is called the “Gold Coast” of Colorado Springs.





interiors feature exquisite man-made designs. The kitchen and bathroom cabinets, by Mike Petersen of Plush Designs Kitchen & Bath, are all custom, while the furniture is a mix of modern pieces from Paul Brayton Designs, Calligaris, and Ligne Roset, among others. “The homeowners like the feeling of a large space being very open,” Gil-land says. “In the great room, I suggested couches and chairs. They just said, ‘A couch would be nice.’ And there was a long pause. It was almost as if the couch would be the only furniture in that space.”

Despite the home’s serene setting and minimalist style, it’s filled with energy of another sort when the homeowners’ six grandchildren come to visit. Even with a fun, modern bunk room to entice the kids, the great room and patio are the most popular spots, no matter the time of day. “When I wake up and get out of bed, I walk across the living room to make a cup of coffee,” says one of the homeowners. “It’s an enormous expanse of glass. I look at Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak every morning and just say, ‘Wow.’ We’ve been here for a year, and I say ‘Wow’ every morning.” ■

Above: Even the master bath affords views of Pikes Peak with a large window above the soaking tub from Wetstyle. The sinks are by Hastings Tile & Bath.

Left: The bunk room, designed for the homeowners’ grandchildren, displays beautiful (and playful) bunk beds from Oeuf LLC.

Facing page: The master suite offers the same vistas as the great room, as well as a walkout patio that’s perfect for enjoying early-morning coffee.





DINING ROOM > Colorful chairs (upholstered in lemon yellow aniline leather) surround the Chippendale-style table. For the gilded grenades, designers John and Sasha Moynad found a collector of WWII-era memorabilia and had the empty shells partially gold-leafed and then custom-framed.

On The Edge



When restaurateur Leigh Sullivan wanted to decorate her blended clan's new abode, it took help from a dynamic duo of sibling designers to give it a bold but personal touch.

BY CORINA QUINN • PHOTOGRAPHY BY KIMBERLY GAVIN



Leigh

SULLIVAN IS NO STRANGER TO MAKING people feel at home. She's co-owned and operated some of the most successful restaurants in Denver—including TAG and TAG Raw Bar—and now, as the principal of Leigh Sullivan Enterprises, she oversees branding and marketing for many of the biggest names in the local hospitality scene. But when it came to revamping a 1920 Congress Park bungalow for Sullivan and her husband's newly blended family of three kids and three dogs, even Sullivan needed a little assist. "Leigh's kind of a tiny blond bombshell, but she's also tough as nails," says her friend and designer Sasha Moinzad. "I'm glad we got to make her home fun and feminine, but with some of it tough and edgy—because that's her."

Sasha and her brother John Moinzad, who together make up design firm Thorn & French, were tasked with marrying bursts of retro glam with quirky and irreverent cultural references and objects. As the daughter of a collector (whom she lovingly calls "a high-end hoarder;"), Sullivan came to the project with a few distinctive pieces she wanted featured in the home: ornate antique mirrors and a

LIBRARY NOOK > Custom benches—built by another Moinzad brother, Armand—flank the fireplace, whose mantle showcases a painting (by Centennial-based artist James Thorpe) that was a 40th birthday gift to homeowner Leigh Sullivan from her father. The large ottoman, from the Sullivan family collection, was reupholstered by Tom's Upholstering in Morrison. *Below:* Sullivan and her husband, Travis, with their dog Tag.



STYLING BY ERICA MONEESH





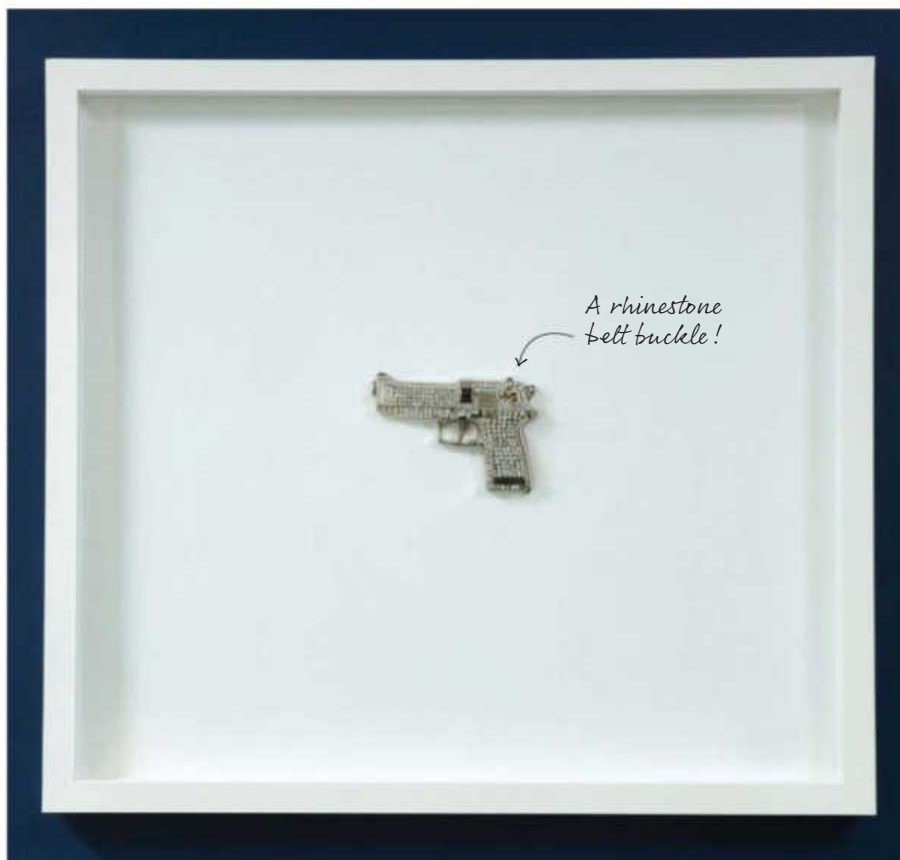
long Chippendale dining table that had been her father's and a tall Buddha statue from one of her former restaurants. "All the objects had to have meaning to me," Sullivan says of her selections. "My husband and I have known each other for a long time, and we're bringing our homes together here, so I wanted to find a way to make the uniqueness of the furniture and everything else work together—kind of like our family."

LIVING ROOM

It may be unusual for designers to build rooms around accents, but the Moizads were up for the challenge. "We took all the staples Leigh had and then added the lipstick and rouge," Sasha says. In the living room, deep navy paint (a custom tint) complements grays in the Popcows shag rug and Jonathan Adler couch. The designers tossed lime green pillows on the club chairs and hung an abstract painting next to a gun-shaped belt buckle bedazzled in rhinestones—both custom-framed.

KITCHEN

Philippe Starck's Louis Ghost Chair (by Kartell) sits next to a Lucite table Sullivan bought from an antique store years ago—it's estimated to be from the 1970s. Sullivan is an avid Beatles fan, and the photos on the wall were a gift from her father.





MASTER BEDROOM

The most personal room of the house is glamorous with lush fabrics and deep tones. The walls' rich color (Benjamin Moore's Wolf Gray) is a mid-range hue that finds lighter and darker contrasts in the custom bedding. A combination of textures on the bed, including the chenille duvet and custom champagne silk pillow shams, gives the scheme depth and interest. In keeping with the theme of distinctive pieces, the Moinzads hung framed antique brooches on either side of the bed. ■

• GET THE LOOK •



Lighting

Upbeat Yellow Terra-Cotta Table Lamp by Currey & Co., \$420, Lamps Plus, lampsplus.com



Pop Art

"Queen of Pop Art," starting at \$22.88, Society 6, society6.com



Paint

Benjamin Moore Old Navy, 2063-10, \$53.99/gallon of Regal Select, Guiry's Color Source, guirys.com



Mirror

Moroccan Gilt Mirror, \$279, Wisteria, wisteria.com



FROM TOP: (LAMP) COURTESY OF LAMPS PLUS; (ART) COURTESY OF FLORIAN RODARTE FINE ART; (PAINT) ISTOCK; (MIRROR) COURTESY OF WISTERIA



Buyer's Guide

SEE SOMETHING IN THE PAGES OF 5280 HOME YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT?
HERE'S WHERE TO FIND IT.

COVER

From "Home Made," page 42

Grasshopper Lounge Chair in brown hide, DoubleButter, 17 Galapago St., 303-246-5759, doublebutter.com.

CONTENTS

Page 6

Succulent sculpture in gold, Waterstone Succulents, etsy.com/shop/waterstone succulents; Gazelle Sideboard in aniline dyed walnut and ivory shagreen, Newell Design Studio, 303-298-8572, newelldesignstudio.com; Changing Guard wallpaper, Lizzie Allen, lizzieallen.co.uk; "Colorado Canyons" by Ross Eugene Braught, David Cook Galleries, 1637 Wazee St., 303-623-8181, davidcookgalleries.com.

SETTING THE BAR (CART) >

Page 24

Interior Designer: Barbara Bork, Lola Gray Home & Design, 2516 Broadway St., Boulder,



303-997-8230, lolagrayhome.com. **Setup:** Bar cart with mirrored shelves, belted ice bucket, ribbed decanters, and platinum-banded glasses (set of four), all available through Lola Gray.

BREATHING ROOM

Page 28

Interior Designer: Kristi Dinner, Company KD, 605 Ogden St., 303-355-1840, companykd.com. **Kitchen:** Custom chandelier by Tracey Barnes, 720-425-7931, traceybarnesart.com.

SWEET DREAMS

Page 34

Interior Designers: Ashley Larson and Conni Newsome, C&A Interiors, 2929 W. 25th Ave., 720-422-8235, cainteriors.net. **Nursery:** Iced Lavender and Snow White paints, both Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com; Moroccan leather pouf, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com; Whisper Pendant light fixture, Z Gallerie, 3000 E. First Ave., 303-322-1299, zgallerie.com.

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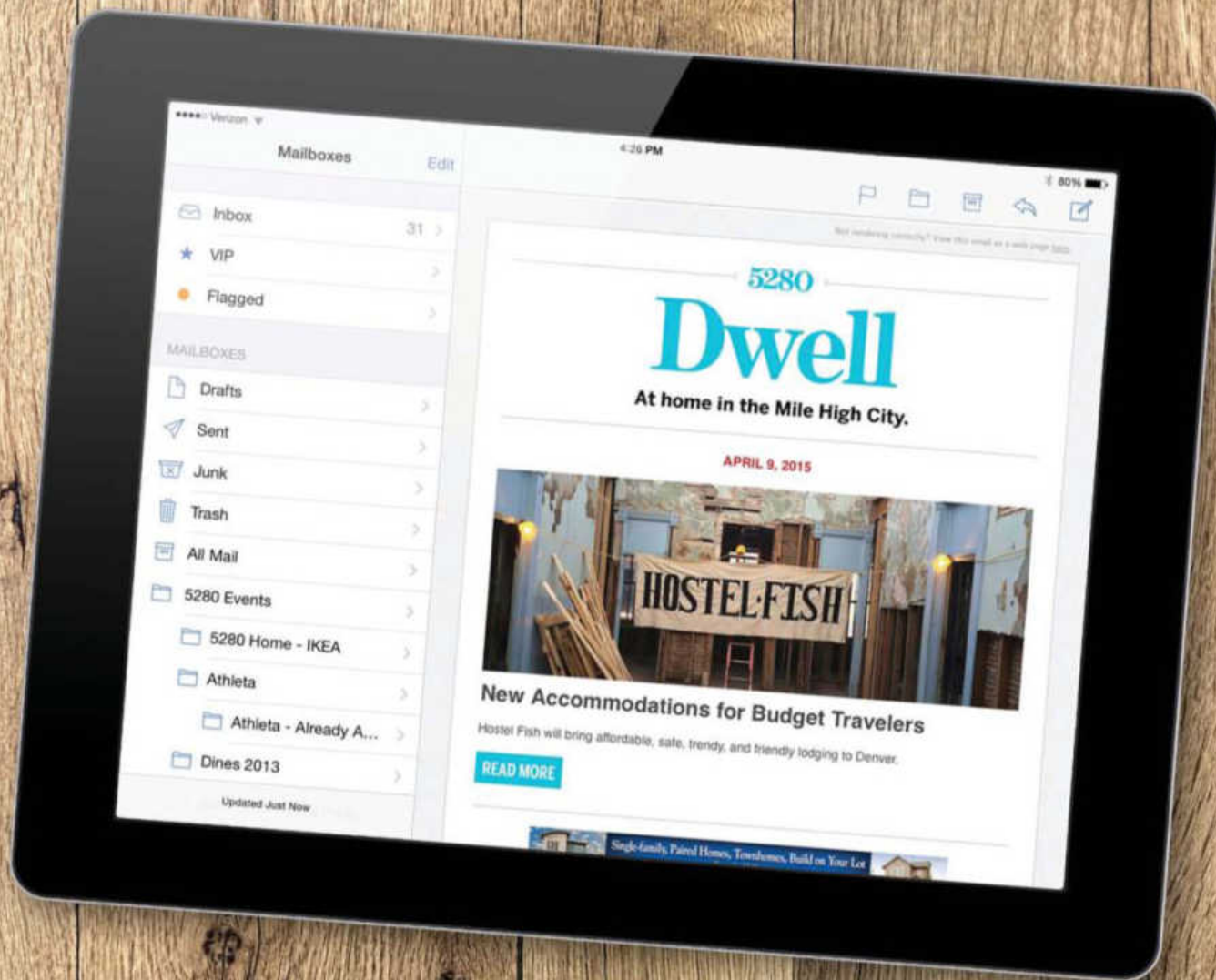
Pages 56–60

Interior Designers: Devon Tobin and Miranda Cullen, Duet Design Group, 901 Acoma St., 303-783-9327, duetdesigngroup.com. **Dining Room:** Changing Guard wallpaper, Lizzie Allen, lizzieallen.co.uk; silk grasscloth, John Brooks, 601 S. Broadway, 303-698-9977, johnbrooksinc.com; Concord Ivory paint, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. **Office:** Serenata paint, Benjamin Moore; window treatments in Sassari Ikat fabric, Lee Jofa, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-733-3470, leejofa.com. **Living Room:** Side chairs custom-upholstered in Schumacher Imperial II fabric, F. Schumacher & Co., Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-733-2591, feschumacher.com. **Bedroom:** Duvet cover, Donghia, John Brooks.

HAPPY PLACE

Pages 70–77

Architect: MQ Architecture & Design, 3101 Iris Ave., #215, Boulder, 720-565-3929, mqad.com. **Interior Designer:** Deidre Oliver, Oliver Designs, 303-775-1835, oliverdesigns.com. **Entry:** Phillip Jeffries Extra Fine Arrowroot paper in Tobacco, Town, Denver Design District, 601 S. Broadway, 303-282-8696, townstudio.com; Diallo coral-inspired chandelier, Arteriors, arteriorshome.com; Charles Pollock Spanish side table, Egg & Dart, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-744-1676, egg-and-dart.com; leather-trimmed hide, Edelman



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Leather, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-825-1277, edelmanleather.com. **Great Room:** Elephant's Breath paint, Farrow & Ball, us.farrow-ball.com; Thomas Pheasant for Baker sofas upholstered in a Schumacher linen and leather ottoman by Baker, both Chuck Wells, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-744-8584, chuckwells.com; Eames lounge chairs in Vincenza leather and palisander wood, Design Within Reach, 2500 E. Second Ave., Suite #120, 720-407-0000, dwr.com; Mandarin gild lamps, Arteriors; Thomas O'Brien Hannah floor lamp, Visual Comfort, visualcomfort.com; Kravet rug, Kravet/Lee Jofa, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-773-1891, kravet.com; shagreen trays, Made Goods, madegoods.com. **Office:** Parisian chandelier, Visual Comfort; Cherner Task Chair in leather and walnut, Mod Livin', 5327 E. Colfax Ave., 720-941-9292, modlivin.com; silk velvet love seat fabric, Brunswick & Fils, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-733-6484, brunswick.com; Dean coffee table, Arteriors; Aerin Lauder Edgemere floor lamp in gilded brass, Visual Comfort. **Dining Area:** Barbara Barry French cuff drum pendants, Visual Comfort; custom table; Tonin Casa leather dining chairs, Moda Antica, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-733-2455, denverdesign.com. **Kitchen:** Thomas O'Brien Gale large hanging pendants, Visual Comfort; Cherner bar stools, Mod Livin'; Ann Sacks Profile glass mosaic tile, Ann Sacks Tile & Stone, 545 S. Broadway, #100, 303-282-9300, annsacks.com;

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range, Viking, vikingrange.com.

Master Bedroom: Archive paint, Farrow & Ball; drapes and shades, Kravet Couture linen, Kravet/Lee Jofa; fine linen bedding, Matouk, matouk.com; Sputnik chandelier, Jonathan Adler, 158 Fillmore St., #100, 303-377-1742, jonathanadler.com.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Pages 78-83

Architectural Designer: Larry Gilland, LGA Studios, 201 E. Las Animas St., #113, Colorado Springs, 719-635-0880, lgastudios.com. **Contractor:** Charlie Shea, C.R. Shea



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Homes Inc., 3655 Camel Grove, Colorado Springs, 719-633-7999, crshea.com. **Interior Designer:** Cindy Senger, ASID, Senger Design Group, 523 S. Cascade Ave., Suite B, Colorado Springs, 719-522-1520, sengerdesigngroup.com. **Entryway:** Pivot front door, Randy Zimdahl, Woodworks Millshop, 465 S. 31st St., Colorado Springs, 719-329-0015, woodworksmillshop.com. **Great Room:** Ligne Roset sectional sofa and cocktail table, both Studio Como, 2535 Walnut St., 303-296-1495, studiocomo.com; side chair and ottoman, Paul Brayton Designs, paulbraytondesigns.com; Silvano console table, Crate & Barrel, 101 Clayton Lane, 303-331-9300, crateandbarrel.com; rug, Floorcoverings by CPA, Denver Design District, 595 S. Broadway, 303-722-4700, cpacarpets.com; Pure White Ceramic collection vases, West Elm, 2955 E. First Ave., Suite 101, 303-320-1001, westelm.com. **Kitchen:** Stools, Design Within Reach, 2500 E. Second Ave., Suite #120, 720-407-0000, dwr.com. **Master Bedroom:** Side chair, Paul Brayton Designs; side table, Kristalia, kristalia.it. **Bunk Room:** Bunk beds, Oeuf, oeufnyc.com.



ON THE EDGE

Pages 84–91

Interior Designers: John and Sasha Moinzad, Thorn & French, P.O. Box 6496, 720-837-9361, thornandfrench.com.

Library Nook: Artwork by James Thorpe; ottoman reupholstery by Tom's Upholstering, 405 Bear Creek Ave., Morrison, 303-697-4619. **Living Room:** Couch, Jonathan Adler, 158 Fillmore St., #100, 303-377-1742, jonathanadler.com; artwork custom-framed by Thorn & French. **Kitchen:** Louis Ghost arm chair, Kartell, kartell.com. **Master Bedroom:** Wolf Gray paint, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. Most other furnishings and accessories, Thorn & French.

OPEN CONCEPT

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Architect: E.J. Meade, AIA, Arch 11, 3100 Carbon Place, Boulder, 303-546-6868, arch11.com. ■

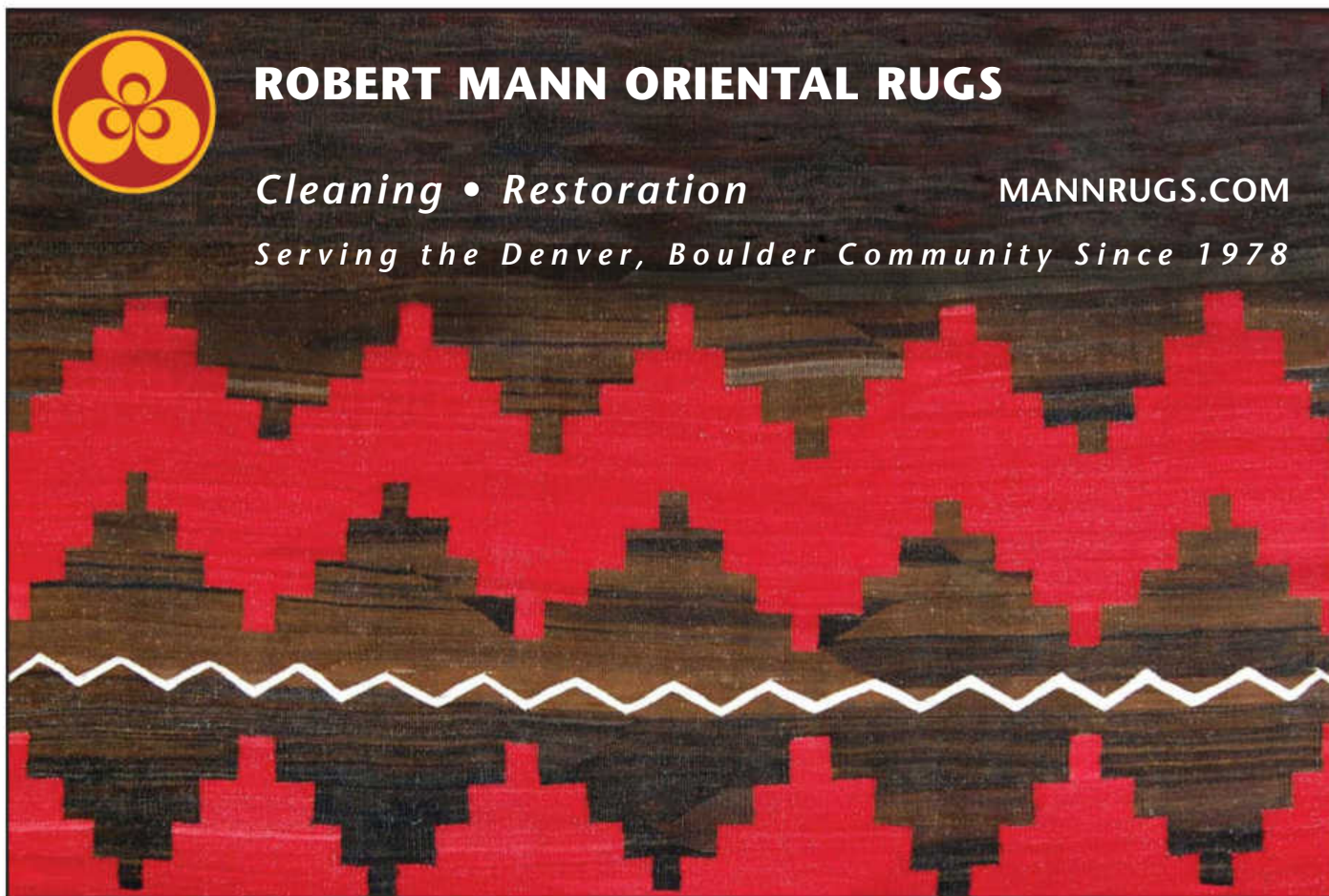


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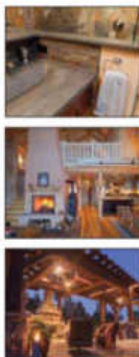
Roehl

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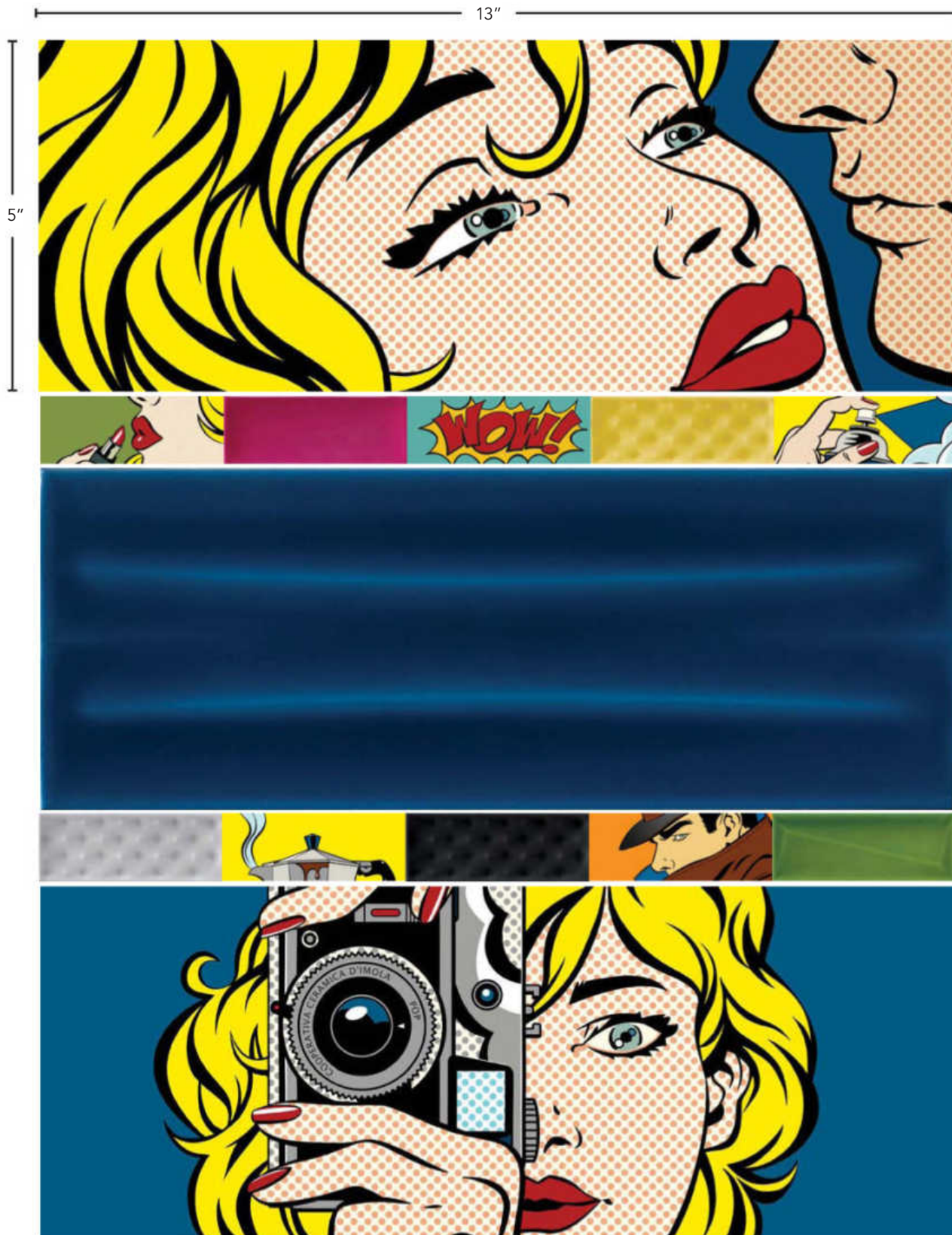
OPEN CONCEPT

A wood-and-metal staircase becomes the focal point of this Boulder townhome.



Delineating spaces—without making rooms feel closed in—was the goal for architect E.J. Meade of Arch11 when he set out to design a townhome in Boulder. Inspired by traditional Japanese screens, he sketched an open staircase with a wooden lattice—only to have his client ask if there was a way he could incorporate metal into the design. He returned with this dramatic concept. By interweaving ash steps, thin vertical ash supports, and horizontal steel bands, Meade kept the design light—avoiding a heavy-handed metal structure that, he jokes, might have verged on looking like it was built for cage-fighting. The screen serves multiple purposes: allowing light through, supporting the actual stairs, and providing a visual separation between the bedrooms upstairs and the dining area downstairs. “You’re coming downstairs from a private area into a public area,” Meade says. “You need to have a gradual introduction into the public space. The screen helps define those spaces.”

—PATRICK DOYLE



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